

COMMENT OF
THE DAY

Disarmament

NOTHING quite so precise as the latest Anglo-French plan for world disarmament has previously been submitted to the UN Disarmament Subcommittee and obviously it will require very close examination by the five-nation delegates now assembled in London.

The plan lifts the whole question of control and eventual abolition of nuclear weapons, the reduction of armed forces and the limitation of national expenditure on armaments, from the realm of generalities and trends the subject of dispassionate and with reality.

Immediate acceptance of the plan in toto by the Disarmament Subcommittee cannot, any more than its total rejection, be expected. Already the American delegate professes to see flaws in it, and it will surprise no one if Russia protests that it is too ambitious and impracticable.

NEVERTHELESS the plan constitutes a valuable blueprint, and at first sight suggests a logical process for disarmament, its weakness is not in its conception, but if it is to be workable it requires an unsurpassable measure of goodwill and integrity on the part of all the world's nations.

The plan envisages three distinct phases of development, each one exacting in its demands. The first phase requires, among other things, renunciation by all nations of the use of nuclear weapons, except against aggression; "freezing" by the Big Five of their armament, manpower and military spending at existing levels; a start by the Big Five in reduction of conventional armaments; implementation of President Eisenhower's scheme for mutual aerial inspection and the Soviet proposal for inspection teams at strategic points to warn against surprise attacks.

THESE are the basic targets for phase 1 of the plan, and while admittedly being controversial propositions, it is conceivable they will cause less dissension than the provision for the creation of a 15-nation Executive Committee endowed with powers to override UN Security Council opinion on the question of whether or not a threat to peace has arisen.

The important meaning of this provision is that application of the veto is eliminated. The Executive Committee itself would require only a majority vote, and its decisions could not be vetoed in the Security Council. Russian acceptance of the abolition of this particular weapon of obstruction is not easy to imagine; nor is the proposal likely to be received with enthusiasm by the Security Council.

Full agreement by the Disarmament Sub-committee on the plan as it now stands is doubtful. Nevertheless, it is basically sound and even if subjected to modification, offers the best hope to date for a definite move towards disarmament. As such, its authors and sponsors earn the world's thanks and commendation.

Into The Twilight World

The China Mail tomorrow begins a new adventure... "Into the twilight world". This is an account of a true investigation by science to find out what happens WHEN THE DEAD SEEM TO TALK TO US.

Don't miss this intriguing new series by Robert Pittman which begins tomorrow exclusively in the big family favourite newspaper, the Saturday Mail.

It is only one of the highlights. In addition to home-made favourites like GILES, LOW, OSBERT LANGCASTER, Col UP and Mr DOWN, there are these features this week:

★ Don Cockell tells George Whitting about the greatest day in his life;

★ Marilyn Monroe, tells Thomas Wiseman: "I've nothing against women — but I prefer men".

★ Les Armour writes on King Hussein's big gamble.

There are all your regular favourites as well including Jane Roberts' reviews of the latest films in Hongkong, three pages of local and overseas pictures, special sections for women, children and sportsmen, comic strips, crossword puzzles, cartoons — something for everyone in tomorrow's China Mail.

AMERICA MAKES A NEW OFFER

'We'll Cut Our Forces To 2,500,000 If Russia Does The Same'

Dramatic Plan At London Arms Meeting

London, Mar. 22. The United States offered today to cut its military manpower to 2,500,000 men if the Soviet Union would match it.

The U.S. Disarmament delegate, Mr Harold Stassen said the United States was also willing, on a mutual basis with Russia, to reduce armaments and military expenditures to levels commensurate with smaller armed forces.

SEQUEL TO TIME BOMB ATTEMPT

HARDING GETS NEW SERVANTS

Nicosia, Mar. 22. The Governor, Sir John Harding, today dismissed all Greek Cypriots from the staff of Government House, following the attempted time-bomb attack on his life.

Some of the dismissed staff had worked in Government House for the past ten years. All will receive severance pay or pension.

An official statement said the Governor took the measure reluctantly since the Greeks on his staff had given loyal service. He explained that he was not able to retain their services on security grounds.

Doorkeeper Weeps

A doorkeeper, who had been at Government House for more than 40 years, broke down and wept when he learned of his dismissal.

Poujadist Clash

Paris, Mar. 22. Knuckle dusters and bicycle chains were used as weapons to-night when Poujadist supporters and anti-Poujadists came to blows at a meeting here.

Negro Fined

Montgomery, Mar. 22. An Alabama court today handed down a verdict of guilty against Negro Minister Martin Luther King, on a charge of directing a boycott by Negroes against the Montgomery bus service. Judge Eugene Carter fined King \$500.—France-Press.

'We Agree'

Paris, Mar. 23. The French Communist party today announced its agreement with the Soviet "new look" on Stalin.—Reuter.

Jazz Pills Warning

Geneva, Mar. 22. An alarming rise in the use of "jazz pills"—stimulants to ward off sleepiness—is endangering health in many countries, experts of the World Health Organisation warned today.—France-Press.

GOOSSENS

(He Was Forced By Threats)

IS FINED £100

Sydney, Mar. 22. Eugene Goossens, conductor of the Sydney Symphony Orchestra, was fined £100 today on charges that he brought indecent pictures and articles into the country.

Goossens, 52, returned on March 9 from a five-month world tour and was questioned for 45 minutes by Customs officials when he landed at Mascot Airport. He pleaded guilty today but did not appear in court because of illness.

Defence Counsel, Mr J. W. Shand caused a sensation in the courtroom when he entered the plea of guilty for Goossens after presenting a character witness as the only person to testify for the defence.

More Details

Mr Shand hinted that Goossens had been forced by threats to import the literature and photographs. He said he would give further details soon.

"It may be said—that these photographs and literature were brought out as part of trade

between England and Australia, trade which no one in the community could associate with Goossens as a willing accessory," Mr Shand told the court.

"It will be revealed that these photographs were brought out as a result of threats, the nature of which will become known very soon."

RED CHINA TOO

This evening Mr Harold Stassen said President Eisenhower's open skies plan would involve all countries with considerable military potential, including Asia countries.

Mr Stassen said Communist China would eventually have to come into such a control plan.

He said a surprise H-bomb attack could be prevented by aerial inspection, ground control posts, and good communications. No country would survive such an attack unless it calculated it would be so massive that it would not be attacked in return.

Mr Stassen said effective inspection would prevent a surprise attack. Then there would be no attack at all.—All agencies.

Petrov To Tell America About Burgess-Maclean

Washington, Mar. 22. Arrangements are nearly completed for Vladimir Petrov, former head of the Soviet Secret Police in Australia, to give evidence before a United States inquiry into the Burgess-Maclean case and possible Soviet espionage here, it was learned today.

Congressional and diplomatic sources said according to present plans Petrov would give evidence before the Senate Internal Security Sub-Committee. The Chairman of this Committee, Senator James Eastland (Democrat, Missouri), has let it be known that he intends to conduct an inquiry into the defection of British diplomats Guy

Heavy Casualties Feared In Train Crash

Cairo, Mar. 22. An express train was reported derailed in southern Egypt today with heavy casualties. First reports said only that "several hundred" people were believed to have been killed or injured in the derailment. Several foreign tourists were believed to be among them. The train was an express special for tourists, rail officials said. The train was derailed by water on the tracks and hurtled into the deep Ibrahimieh Canal at high speed.—United Press.

FRANCE TO SEND OFFICIAL TO CHINA

Paris, Mar. 22. France intends to send a commercial and cultural representative to Communist China, the Foreign Minister M. Christian Pineau said today.

He said he had informed the United States Secretary of State Mr John Foster Dulles of this when they met in Karachi earlier this month, at the agency of the Southeast Asia Treaty Organisation.

The Foreign Minister said he also informed Mr Dulles that a cultural and economic representative of North Vietnam would be admitted to France. He said he told Mr Dulles that France regretted the unfriendly attitude of South Vietnamese President Ngo Dinh Diem toward France.

Mr Dulles agreed with M. Pineau that the West should revise certain of its conceptions regarding East-West relations, M. Pineau said.—France-Press.

700 Students Riot After Exam Scandal

Rangoon, Mar. 22. Seven hundred students rioted at a newspaper plant today following a middle school examination scandal.

The Government announced that two students and two policemen were injured in the clashes. An official investigation was ordered.

The rioting resulted from a Government announcement that examinations for middle school graduation and scholarship rating had been cancelled.

THREE STONES

The newspaper Bamakhit, an anti-Communist daily, reported that the examination questions had leaked out in advance. Angry students stoned the newspaper offices and wrecked a neon gateway sign.

A clash with police ensued. Police believed that there were serious injuries both to students and police. The demonstrators eventually withdrew in the evening.

The newspaper's press was not damaged. Its publisher, U On Ki, is in Tokyo attending a conference of the International Press Institute.—United Press.

Authorine To Marry

Dallas, Texas, Mar. 22. A Dallas minister, Mr Ernest Estell, said today Miss Authorine Lucy, 28-year-old Negro whose entry into University of Alabama caused riots, would be married here on April 22 to the Rev. H. C. Foster, a young Negro theological student.

Mr Foster was a classmate of Miss Lucy's in Alabama.—Reuter.

Macmillan's Plea To Industry

to HALT THE SPIRAL OF RISING PRICES

London, Mar. 22. The British Government today called for a united effort by industry to check a steady price climb which is costing the country vital foreign sales.

"Those who may have thought in recent years that the warnings of the danger of rising prices to our exports were exaggerated can now see for themselves that the wolf whose existence they denied is getting closer to the door," warned the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr Harold Macmillan.

He was addressing a press conference called in connection with a White Paper which urged both employers and workers to co-operate in boosting production.

The importance of the Government's attack on its anti-inflation campaign was emphasised by the presence at the press conference of two other ministers, Mr Peter Thorneycroft, President of the Board of Trade, and Mr Iain Macleod, Minister of Labour.

Mr Macmillan said that public support was essential to keep down prices, which had risen faster in the last decade than in any similar peace-time period in the last century.

"A democracy cannot be run as a police state," he said. He said the rise in prices was becoming a threat to our exporters in their struggle to retain our share of world markets and thus to pay for the imports on which our life depends."

Present export prices still did not fully reflect the more recent increase in production costs, he added.

Mr Macmillan admitted that price was not the only factor in Britain's competitive "power" which had shown a falling off in the last two years. But it was the basic factor, although delivery dates, quality and de-

sign and salesmanship had to be considered. He undertook not to pursue a deflationary policy that would lead to unemployment, but warned that "if we went bankrupt we should have 3,000,000 unemployed."

In calling for "comprehension, consent and co-operation from industry and public," Mr Macmillan urged labour to avoid excessive wage claims and restrictive, job-making practices.

Ten leaders of state-owned undertakings including coal, gas, electricity and transport in Britain agreed at a meeting with Sir Anthony Eden and senior ministers tonight to keep down prices as a contribution to the fight against inflation.

The Chiefs of the state boards, according to a statement issued later, agreed with the Government "that the need to keep down prices applied both to the nationalised industries and the private sector."

Tonight's meeting was the fourth that Sir Anthony Eden has arranged to strengthen liaison between the Government and industry. The previous meetings have been with two organisations of employers and the eight-million-strong Trades Union Congress.—Reuter.

New Comet Found

New York, Mar. 22. Discovery of a new comet low in the southern sky was announced by Lick Observatory at Belmont Hamilton, California.

It was found by Mr C. A. Wirtanen, assistant Research astronomer, on March 10, with the observatory's 20-inch star camera.—Reuter.

King's Order

London, Mar. 22. King Mahendra of Nepal has ordered in Britain a 1344-piece dinner service (cost £1,200) to be used during his Coronation celebrations in May.—France-Press.

RUSSIANS TRAINING EGYPTIAN OFFICERS'

London, Mar. 23. Two hundred officers and non-commissioned officers of the Egyptian Army and Navy are receiving secret training at a Soviet base near the harbour of Gdynia in Poland, the Daily Telegraph's Diplomatic Correspondent reports today.

He said the Egyptians were receiving instruction in the use of radar, anti-aircraft artillery, and submarines. He added: "It is also probable that instruction is being given in amphibious operations. The training is being carried out exclusively by Russian instructors. Poles have no access to the training area."

The courses have been in progress since December. Half the group of Egyptians, which is under the command of an Egyptian Army colonel, is changed every three months.

SUDDEN SWITCH

"Though the course itself is at present limited to 200, a larger number than this are being prepared for certain unspecified special tasks."

"It had originally been planned that the training should take place in Russia, but for an unknown reason, the course was transferred to Poland."

"The training scheme was instituted following the Czech-Egyptian arms deal last year."—Reuter.

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Four Electrocuted

Alor Star, Mar. 22. Four miners were electrocuted and 19 others injured at an iron mine at Sungai Batu, Semeling, Central Borneo today.

Police said they believed the cause of the disaster was a short circuit in the electrical mechanism.—Reuter.

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A SIMPLE LESSON IN GEOGRAPHY

With borders, people change. But the Budweiser you pour is the same magnificent product wherever you are. Treat yourself a little better... with the beer that's been poured and praised by more people than any other beer in history.

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KING'S PRINCESS

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COMMENCING TO-DAY



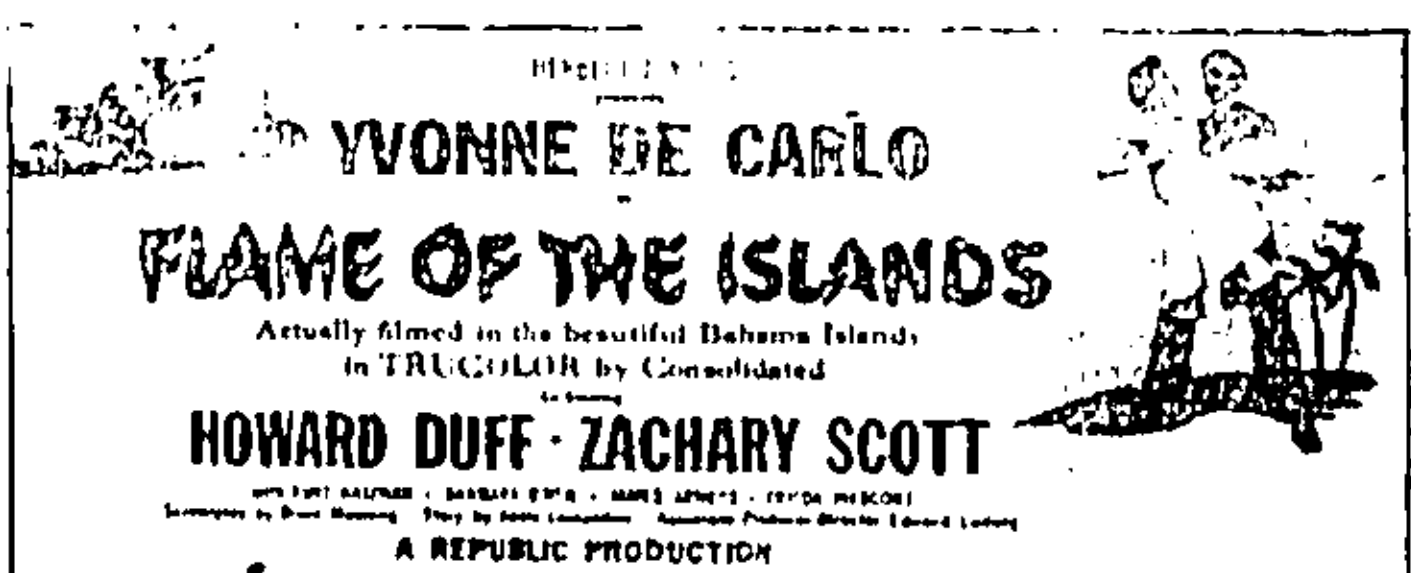
NEW YORK - GREAT WORLD
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FINAL TO-DAY
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.



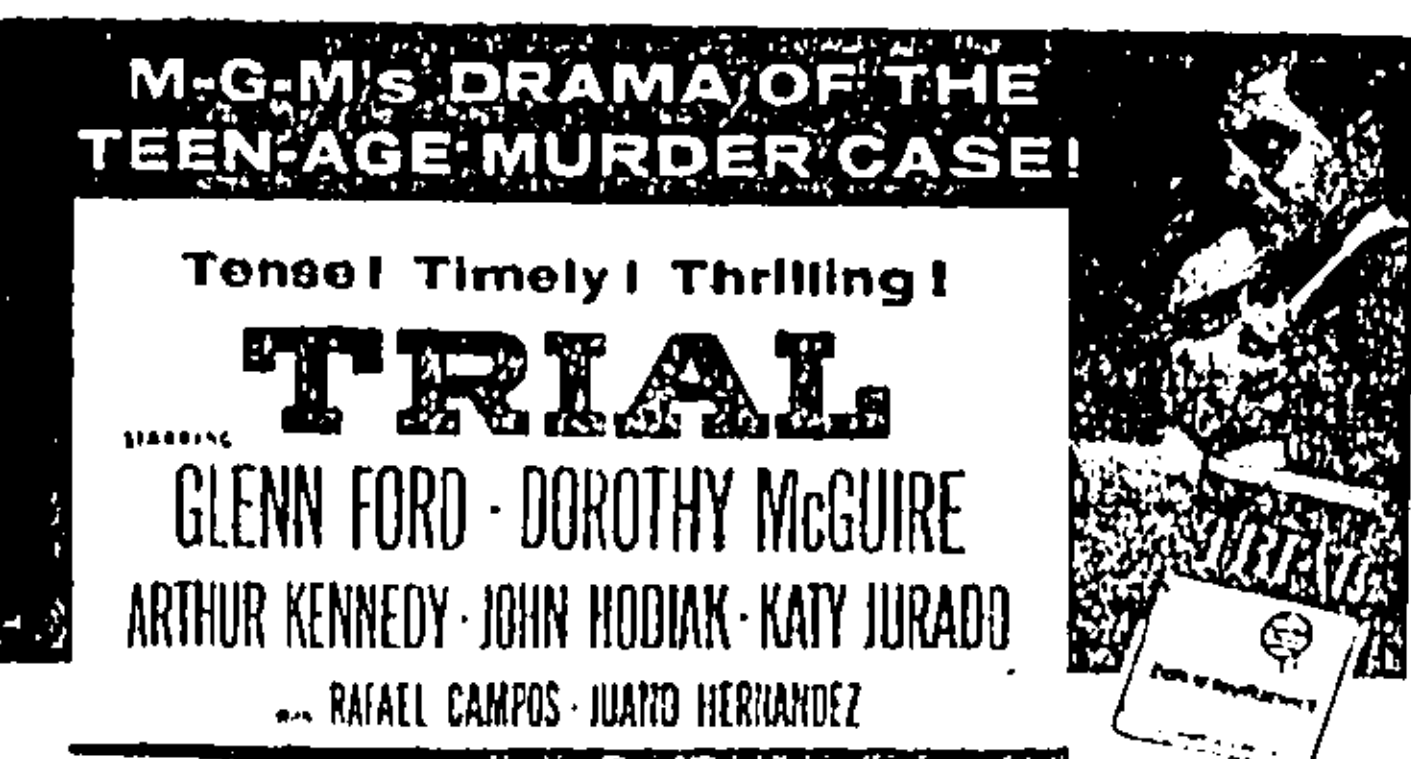
Starring Ralph Meeker

— TO-MORROW —

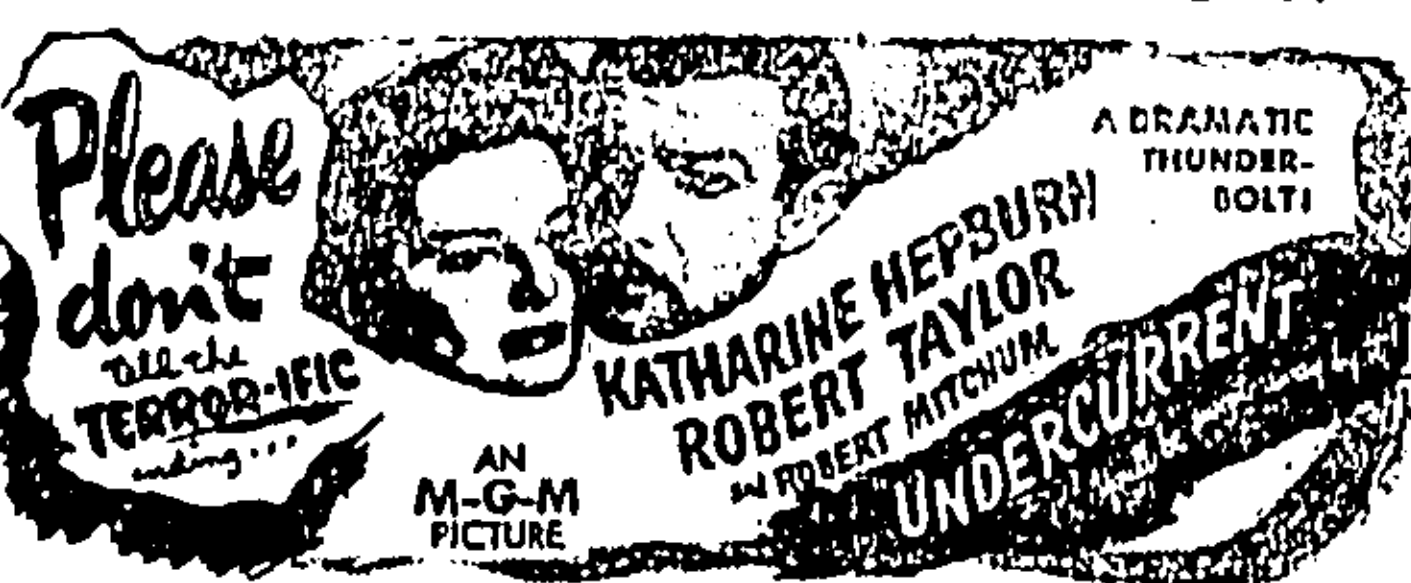


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TO-DAY ONLY 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.

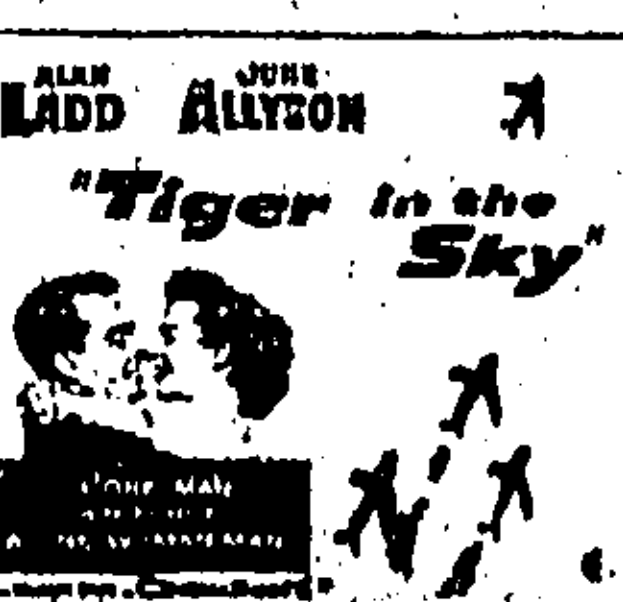


STARTS TO-MORROW



CAPITOL RITZ

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.40 P.M.



A free sample of CABBURY'S RED LABEL DRINKING CHOCOLATE will be given to each patron at 7.30 p.m. show



Next Change - 'THE ADVENTURE OF ROBIN HOOD' - To-day Morning 11 - 'THE GAMBLER FROM NATCHES'

TRADE WITH COMMUNIST COUNTRIES

'MURDER MILE' SEALED



A British paratrooper stands guard on a rooftop while below families are evicted from 10 houses in Nicosia's "Murder Mile" scene of a number of terrorist killings in the past few months. The houses and 20 shops in the area will be sealed for three months as punishment for the inhabitants' withholding of information about the murder of Police Sergeant Rooney, who was shot in the back by a Sten gun terrorist just over one week ago.—Express Photo.

Japan Complains About Soviet Fishing Control

London, Mar. 22.

Mr Shunichi Matsumoto, Japan's chief negotiator in the peace talks with the Soviet Union here, this afternoon called at the Soviet Embassy to transmit a complaint from the Japanese Government about regulations announced by the Soviet Government yesterday to control fishing in the Northern Pacific.

Matsumoto but he promised to transmit the complaint.

Temporary

He said that in his own opinion he did not think the Soviet Government was trying to create trouble for Japan in this matter.

The new Soviet "restriction" was officially stated in Moscow yesterday to be of a temporary nature until the conclusion of a suitable agreement with the interested countries.—Reuter.

Unlawful

Mr. Matsumoto had received instructions from Tokyo to lodge complaints against such stops, and he called on Ambassador Malik at the Soviet Embassy.

Mr Matsumoto pointed out firstly that the new Soviet regulation is against the international law as it was unlawful for one country to try to control fishing operations of another country on high seas.



Matsumoto

Secondly he said that it was not true as the Russians claimed, that the Japanese fishing vessels were taking trout and salmon indiscriminately during the spawning season. He said that the Japanese fishing industry could supply "scientific evidence" that it was not doing this. He also told Ambassador Malik in strong terms that it was most undesirable that the Soviet Union should take steps which might adversely affect the relationship between the two nations while peace negotiations were being carried out between them. Ambassador Malik replied that he had no authority to discuss this question with Mr

Ike's Administration Accused Of Covering Up

Washington, Mar. 22.

Senator John McClellan (Democrat-Arkansas), repeated charges today that the Eisenhower Administration had concealed facts about free world trade with the Soviet Union and announced he has summoned the Under-Secretary of State, Mr Herbert Hoover, Jr, for questioning on Monday.

Senator McClellan told the Senate that the investigations Sub-committee of which he is chairman, had also called the Secretary of Commerce, Mr Sinclair Weeks, and the Foreign Aid Administrator, Mr John Hollister, to testify in Monday's public hearing. In the questioning, Senator McClellan said he would see to break down what he termed the "policy of secrecy" concerning the extent to which the US concurred in a 1954 agreement easing curbs on other free nations' trade with the Soviet Union.

Jap Scandal

"The shipment of scrap metal to Japan which became the scandal of the 1930s and 1940s, even well considered a minor blunder when compared with the assistance and benefit that the Communist bloc countries are deriving from the policy that we and our Allies are now pursuing."

The agreement, Mr McClellan said, presented a paradox. On one hand he said the US has declared that the 1954 agreement was "in the best interest of the United States," while holding on the other hand that the sale of the same items to the Soviet Union by US companies would be "contrary to the national interest."—Reuter.

Port Swettenham Go-Slow Strike May End

Kuala Lumpur, Mar. 22.

The go-slow strike at Port Swettenham docks may end tomorrow following talks today between representatives of the National Union of Railwaymen and the port management.

The Chief Port Manager, Mr H. J. Shalles, said tonight: "The Assistant Minister for Transport, in the meeting, General Manager of the Malayan Railways visited the port today and spoke to a number of workers."

"After this visit a meeting was held between representatives of the NUR and the port management."

A formula evolved for solving the dispute. The formula was acceptable to the NUR representatives and has the whole-hearted support of the railway administration.—Reuter.

THE MULE OBJECTED

Estcourt, Natal, Mar. 22.

A labourer who tried to milk a farmer's cow surreptitiously by night was discovered lying unconscious in the cowshed. In the dark, he had tried to milk a mule by mistake. —China Mail Special.

GERMANY SUPPORTS JAPAN

Bonn, Mar. 22.

Herr Kurt Georg Kiesinger, foreign policy expert of Dr Konrad Adenauer's Christian Democratic Party, said Russian refusal to return Japan's lost territories and prisoners of war was "in sharp contrast to her own propaganda calling for relaxation of tension and self-determination of peoples."

He expressed West German sympathy at the failure of the Russo-Japanese talks in London. The return of Japan's lost territories and her prisoners of war were "problems which are related to our own."

NOTABLE DIFFERENCE

There was, however, one notable difference. "While Soviet Russia tries to defend its refusal to return East Germany by claiming it is independent, such an argument in the case of Japanese territories is not possible."

"But in reality the situation is the same in both cases, in spite of the different pretexts which are put forward by the Soviet Union."

"The Soviet Union is apparently not willing, up to the present, to withdraw from the positions she occupied during and after the war."—Reuter.

Prague, Mar. 22.

After an eight-year break, a regular air service between Prague and Belgrade was resumed today, when Czech airliner took off from Prague for the Yugoslav capital.

Czech planes will fly a twice weekly service between Prague and Belgrade.—France-Press.

Peron's Brother-In-Law Was Murdered

Buenos Aires, Mar. 22.

Former President Juan Peron's brother-in-law secretary was murdered, and did not commit suicide. Investigators of the Federal Police Department reported today.

Investigators said the bullet which killed Juan Duarte, brother of Eva Peron, was not fired in his apartment on the night of April 8, 1953.

Moreover, they said, none of the occupants of the numerous apartments above or below the apartment where his body was found had heard a shot. Found in the apartment with the body was a "suicide letter" asking Peron's forgiveness. Investigators said today the letter was forged in the Presidential Secretariat, with the direct intervention of former Propaganda Minister Raul Apold.

POP



WATCH FOR THE OPENING DATE!

THE MAN WHO OPENED THE WEST!
KIRK DOUGLAS
The INDIAN FIGHTER



QUEEN'S & ALHAMBRA

SHOWING TO-DAY

"Beautifully Photographed—Absorbingly Interesting."
—China Mail.



LEE

TO-NIGHT AT 8.00 P.M.

CHUNG YEE DRAMA GROUP presents
"TEN THOUSAND INGOTS OF GOLD"

(兩萬金黃)

A Mandarin Play in 3 Acts

Admissions \$1, \$2, \$3, \$5 & \$7.50

THE CHORAL GROUP A CONCERT

Due to unforeseen circumstances the CONCERT WILL BE POSTPONED TO NEXT SATURDAY 31st March, 1956 at 2.30 p.m.

at Lee Theatre

Tickets issued on 24th March Performance WILL BE VALID for 31st March, 1956 at 2.30 p.m.

ROXY & BROADWAY

2nd Big Week + Now Showing The 8th Day!
AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

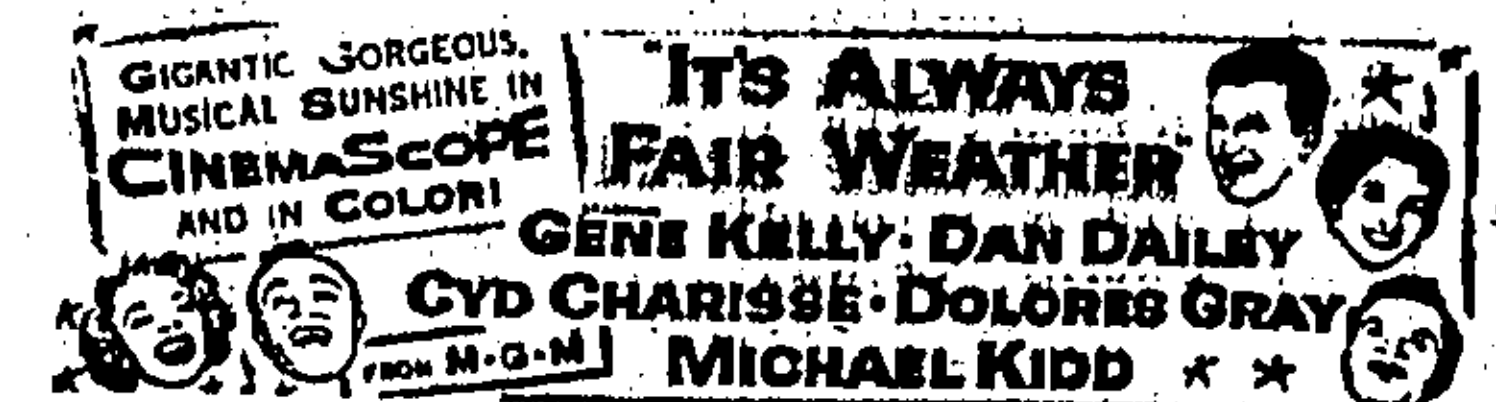
THE LAUGHING H-BOMBI



ADDED ATTRACTION: Latest 20th Century-Fox Newsreel.

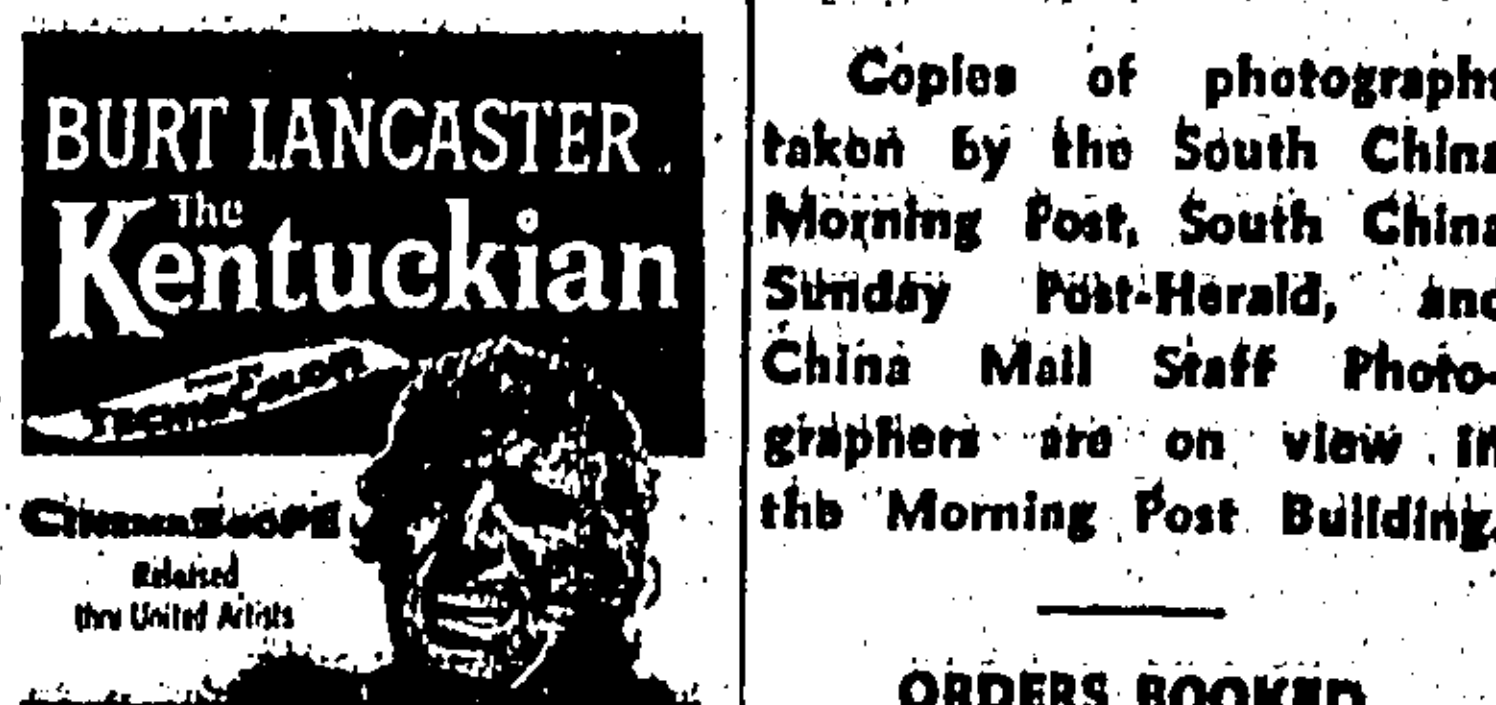
ORIENTAL SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.30, 7.30 & 9.30 P.M.

IN PERSPECTA, DIRECTIONAL STEREOGRAPHIC SOUND!



MAJESTIC PRESS PHOTOGRAPHS

SHOWING TO-DAY AT 2.30, 5.20, 7.30 & 9.30 p.m.



ORDERS BOOKED



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TUNISIAN LEADER ACCLAIMED

Skeleton Found In Cemetery

Open Verdict On Artist's Model

London, Mar. 22. An open verdict was recorded here today on a 49-year-old artist's model whose skeleton was discovered last month in a London cemetery, 50 yards from the grave of her "spiritual lover."

Police, in evidence, said the woman, Mrs. Marion Gwendoline Duggan, had not been seen since leaving her flat in Hampstead, Northwest London, in August, 1953. Her decomposed body was found in the corner of a local cemetery on February 25.

Detective Chief Inspector Albert Payton, told the coroner, there was no reason to think it was a case of murder. Questioned about Mr. Delmonte, a former neighbour of Mrs. Duggan, the inspector said she had been affected by his death. "She referred to him in his lifetime and afterwards as her spiritual lover," he added.

NINE MONTHS
Mr. Delmonte's grave was about 50 yards from where Mrs. Duggan's body was found. She had never said she had been to his grave nor had she ever been there, Inspector Payton said.

Dr. F. C. Camps, a pathologist, said the body could have been undisturbed since 1952 but added: "If asked to give an opinion, I would say it was less likely to have been there as long as that, but it must have been there as long as time matters."—China Mail Special.

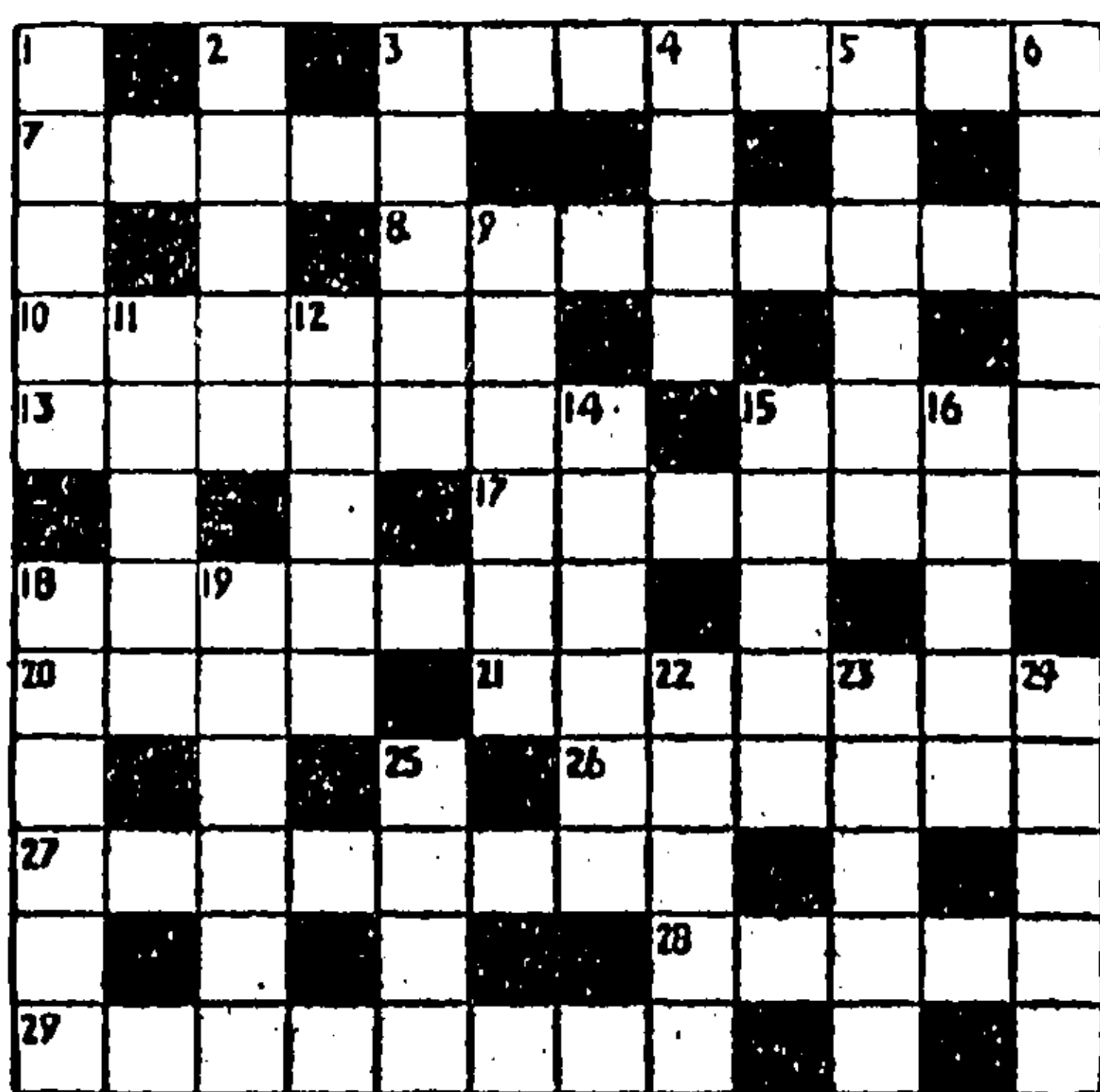
Antarctic Bases Protest

London, Mar. 22. Chile today protested to Britain over the creation of two new British bases in Antarctic territories, claimed by Britain, Chile and the Argentine.

One of the bases is on the Danco coast of the Falkland Islands Dependencies and another on an island off the Loubet coast.

A Foreign Office spokesman said tonight that Higinio Gonzalez, the Chilean diplomat, who headed in the Chilean note of protest this afternoon, was informed that Britain rejected his Government's claim to the Falklands.—France-Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS
3 Imputed (8).
7 Subsequently (5).
8 Wages (8).
10 Special aptitude (10).
13 Lift (7).
15 Formerly (4).
17 Precious stone (7).
18 Hermit (7).
20 Responsibility (4).
21 Pig's foot (7).
26 Unblinking (8).
28 Eat away (5).
29 Dish (8).

DOWN
1 Best part (5).
2 Purloined (5).
3 Stadium (5).
4 Tear (4).
5 Fruit (6).
6 Moved quickly (6).
9 Bear witness (6).
11 Foreign (5).
12 Ill (5).
14 Come out (6).
15 Speak (5).
16 Helpful facts (5).
18 Hearty (6).
19 Clergyman (6).
22 Command (5).
23 Claw (5).
24 Allude to (5).
25 Transparent mineral (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 1 Agenda, 5 Doubt, 8 Upper, 9 Decamp, 10 Fired, 11 Paris, 12 Tome, 13 Cease, 16 Nomad, 18 Evelyn, 20 Shred, 22 Dire, 23 Legal, 25 State, 26 Nomad, 27 Omega, 28 Show, 29 Enters. Down: 1 Auditor, 2 Chamber, 3 Dump, 4 Appal, 5 Dodo, 6 Arise, 7 News, 14 Aspire, 15 Expense, 16 Redeem, 17 Melange, 19 Yellow, 21 Hush, 24 Lead.

But Police Have Trouble With Rioting Algerians

Tunis, Mar. 22. Nationalist leader Habib Bourguiba flew home to a wild welcome in newly-independent Tunisia today but police had to use fire-hoses and tear gas to disperse Algerians rioting for the same deal for their country.

Independence had come to Tunisia, but peace had not. In southern Tunisia French troops killed 70 outlaws allegedly trained in independent Libya and crossing to Algeria to join the fighting there.

QUEEN SENDS MESSAGE TO PAKISTAN

London, Mar. 23. Her Majesty, Queen Elizabeth, sent Pakistan Independence Day greetings today.

"I send you my warmest wishes on the occasion of the inauguration of the Islamic Republic of Pakistan."

"I have followed with close interest the progress of your country since its establishment eight and a half years ago and I pray that peace and prosperity may bless you and your fellow countrymen in the years ahead."

"It is a source of great satisfaction to me to know that your country intends to remain within the Commonwealth."

"I am confident that Pakistan and other countries of the Commonwealth will continue to share and to benefit from their mutual association."

EDEN'S MESSAGE
The Prime Minister, Sir Anthony Eden, in a message to the Pakistan Prime Minister, Muhammad Ali, said:

"On behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom I send to you and your colleagues and to the peoples of Pakistan our cordial greetings."

"We all welcome the decision of the Republic to remain a member of the Commonwealth and look forward to the continuance of the friendly and confident relations which exist between our two countries."

"We send our sincere good wishes for the future happiness and prosperity of your country."

Katmandu, Mar. 22. A Swiss Everest expedition, the first to attempt to climb the mountain since the successful British expedition in 1953, has reached the sherpas' camp at Namche Bazar, about 20 miles from Everest.—Reuter.

Three French soldiers were reported killed.

In rebellious Algeria the death toll was 121. But in Morocco which won its independence three weeks ago, the fighting was dying down.

Ceased Operations

Moroccan nationalist leaders ordered a ceasefire today. The Moroccan "National Liberation Army" distributed leaflets in Casablanca proclaiming that they had ceased offensive operations on March 7, and disclaiming responsibility for any new attacks.

In Tunis, even as Bourguiba was riding in triumph to the Palace of Carthage to be blessed on both cheeks by the 74-year-old Bey, Algerians rioted downtown and were joined by supporters of Bourguiba's exiled rival, extremist Salah ben Youssef.

Shouting "Long Live Algeria," they tried to crash a police barricade hastily thrown in front of the residence of French High Commissioner Roger Seydoux. Police drove them off with tear gas and fire-hoses.

The sharpest engagement today was reported at Filaloune, 16 miles east of the Moroccan frontier and 80 miles southwest of Ouan, when rebels ambushed a detachment of the Fifth Foreign Legion Regiment.

Reinforcements

The detachment, surrounded, radioed for help. American-built Sikorski helicopters swooped in from Tlemcen and landed a battalion of reinforcements in the middle of the battle-ground.

When the helicopters returned to Tlemcen one had 30 bullet holes in its fuselage, and the pilot had been wounded in the neck.

Police charged two Moslems today with taking part in two separate massacres of French farm families within the past month.

The two men are brothers and both are members of the French-organized rural police. Police charged Gerrard Abdel Kader with taking part in the massacre of Palestinos on March 7, in which seven French civilians were butchered, and his brother Maklouf with taking part in killing nine civilians at Sakamod on February 24.

End Struggle

Bourguiba said that "while hailing the realization of our national aspirations" he had similar hopes for Algeria.

He said, "I hope with all my heart that France, inspired by

Krupp Plans For Halting Russia

Essen, Mar. 22. Krupp of Essen, the giant Ruhr industrial concern, today published a six-point appeal to the United States for joint action by private Western companies to fight Soviet economic infiltration in underdeveloped countries.

The six points are:
1. Technical aid on the basis of "trade, not aid."
2. Political influence should be reduced to an absolute minimum, if possible avoided altogether.

3. All consortia of private Western firms must dispose of the very best technical experience.
4. Economic aid on a profit basis can be much greater than on a basis of government aid.
5. Private execution of aid programmes will be much more efficient than publicly financed projects.
6. Military aspects of such programmes must be reduced to the minimum.—Reuter.

The Tunisian solution, will put an end to the struggle which is still going on in Algeria.—United Press.

US EXPRESSES SATISFACTION

Washington, Mar. 22. The United States Government today expressed to the French and Tunisian Governments its satisfaction at the Franco-Tunisian agreement signed in Paris on Tuesday.

In a message handed to the French Foreign Minister, M. Christian Pineau, by the American Ambassador, Mr. Douglas Dillon in Paris, the text of which was published by the State Department here, Mr. Dillon said:

"My Government desires to pay homage to the realism and magnanimity of those who have made possible the Franco-Tunisian protocol of agreement signed on March 20 and to the role of France, which has proven once again her dedication to the progress of North Africa and to the aspirations of its people."

The text of the message delivered by the American Consul-General in Tunis, Mr. Morris L. Hughes, to the Bey of Tunis, Sidi Mohammed Lamlam Pasha, was as follows: "My Government wishes to convey to His Highness the Bey, to the members of the Tunisian Government, and to the people of Tunisia its congratulations on the signature of the protocol of agreement of March 20, between the Governments of Tunisia and France, and on the recognition of Tunisian independence as embodied therein."

Admire Courage

"My Government desires to express its particular admiration for the courage and magnanimity of those who have made possible the Franco-Tunisian protocol of agreement signed on March 20, between the Governments of Tunisia and France, and on the recognition of Tunisian independence as embodied therein."

Abolition Of Passports Recommended

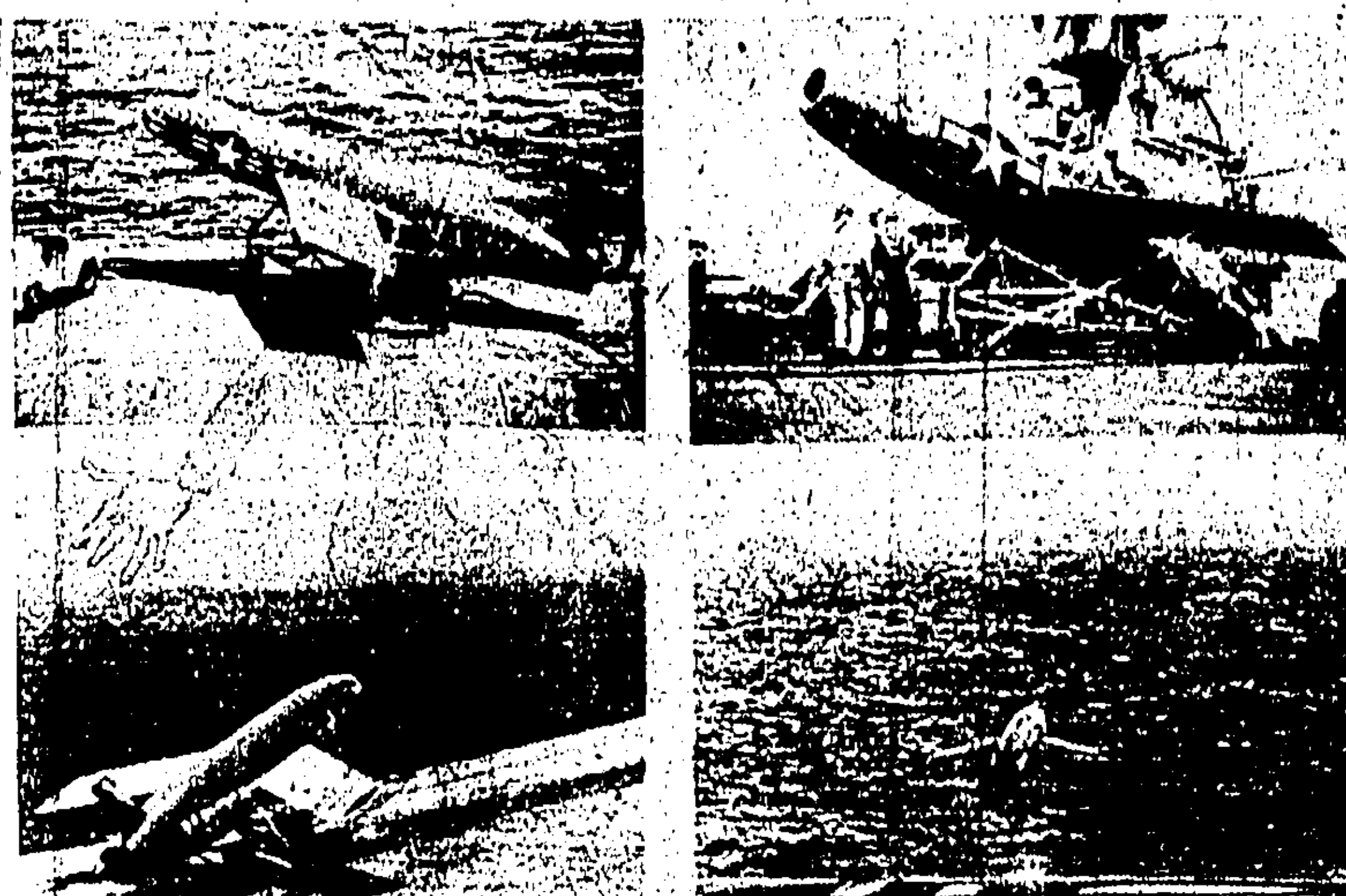
Bonn, Mar. 22. The West German Bundestag today unanimously recommended that passports should be immediately and unilaterally abolished for visitors from Belgium, France, Italy and Luxembourg.

The Bundestag also called for the abolition of international driving licences between these countries.

The session was devoted to a series of other measures for greater European integration. They included proposals for lower customs barriers, a European postal union, the progressive organization of a common European market, a common European policy in East-West negotiations, the creation of a European commission for atomic energy and economic aid for under-developed countries of South and Southeast Europe. The motions were all referred to the appropriate bodies for formulation as parliamentary bills.—France-Press.

Bergville, Natal, Mar. 22. A heat wave broke through meters at Bergville, where the temperature topped 130 degrees Fahrenheit (54 Centigrade). At Bergville, also in Natal, lumbered because their mothers' milk turned sour in their stomachs, and willow and poplar trees shed their leaves.—China Mail Special.

Steam Catapult Launches American Guided Missile



Latest method of firing the "Regulus", a U.S. Navy guided missile, is by steam catapult. This new method, illustrated in the accompanying sequence of pictures, has proved much faster than the former procedure of utilizing a stationary platform. The tests took place aboard the US Navy aircraft carrier USS Hancock. Top, left: Regulus is brought up to the flight deck; top, right: Regulus is placed on the steam catapult; bottom, left: the missile is launched; bottom, right: the missile is in flight.—Express Photo.

PACIFIC NUCLEAR TESTS

US Explains Reasons To Japanese

By Ross Mark

Washington, Mar. 22. The United States has explained in a new note to Japan why it intends to proceed with its nuclear weapons testing—including hydrogen explosions—in the Pacific next month, it was learned today.

Official sources said that the American note had covered the point raised by Japan on January 25, about compensation for any Japanese nationals who might suffer radiation or other injury as a result of the tests.

Japan had made a formal request to the United States to abandon the tests. If not, to give Japan a full briefing on security arrangements and possibly allow Japanese observers on the scene and also agree in advance on compensation if any Japanese fishermen or other citizens suffered injury from the nuclear explosions.

Three Points

While Washington would not release details of its new note for some days, it was understood that it made this three-point reply:

1. The United States must proceed with refinements tests of its nuclear weapons stockpile in the absence of binding weapons control and disarmament arrangements with the Soviet Union;
2. The United States would co-operate fully with Japan with advance warning and security arrangements even to the point of possible limited exchange of information;
3. The United States could not agree in advance to commitments with regard to injury.—Reuter.

River Elbe Meeting Anniversary

Paris, Mar. 22. A group of Soviet veterans of the famous Soviet-American "meeting on the Elbe River" during World War Two, will go to the United States to participate in ceremonies marking the event next April 25, the Soviet Tass news agency announced today.

Tass said the Soviet veterans today accepted the invitation from the American Veterans Committee to go to New York to celebrate the 11th anniversary of the meeting of Soviet and American troops advancing into Germany.

In accepting the invitation, the Soviet veterans expressed the hope that "this new meeting of former American and Soviet combatants will serve the cause of peace and understanding between the peoples of the United States and the USSR," Tass said.—France-Press.

Copenhagen, Mar. 22. Danish Premier Hans Christian Hansen moved swiftly to avert a Government crisis today by personally intervening in the five-day-old strike for 70,000 transport and construction workers.

He called representatives of the employers and the striking unionists to his office for mediation.—United Press.

The French Drink Too Much

Paris, Mar. 22. FRENCH men and women believe their countrymen drink too much, but they cannot agree on what constitutes an alcoholic, a public opinion poll showed today.

Anybody who has any wine or brandy with his breakfast is an alcoholic, said 51 per cent of those polled by the Institute of Public Opinion.

Anybody who drinks a litre (slightly more than a quart) of wine with every meal—unless he happens to be a manual labourer—is an alcoholic, said 50 per cent.

Anybody who drinks an aperitif before every meal, said 37 per cent. Anybody who drops into a cafe several times a day for any kind of drink, said 20 per cent, and anybody who gets drunk several times a year, said 14 per cent.

TWO LITRES

A manual labourer could drink up to almost two litres of wine a day without being an alcoholic, most men said. An office worker should not have more than a quart a day, they felt.

But both men and women agreed that women should not have more than about 50 to 60 centilitres (about a pint) of wine a day.

A total of 68 per cent said that wine was nourishing, furnished needed strength and was a complement to a good meal, and another 34 per cent said it facilitated human relations. But 80 per cent said it was indispensable or useful for manual labourers.

Is too much alcohol consumed in France? Some 54 per cent of the men and 60 per cent of the women said yes. But only a quarter felt that wine was responsible, while 40 per cent blamed brandy and 33 per cent ascribed for intoxication.—France-Press.

W. Europe Urged To Revise Import Policies

Geneva, Mar. 22.

The Secretariat of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe today urged Western Europe to revise its import policies so as to do more trade with non-dollar overseas countries.

In its voluminous Annual Economic Survey of Europe published here tonight, the Secretariat strongly advises Western Europe to buy more "cheap labour" goods from these countries so that they can maintain and expand their purchases.

Rapid Expansion

"The way to integrate the Western European economy into world trade in the coming age of consumer durables and synthetic fibres," the Secretariat says, "is to take advantage of the fact that labour can be bought more cheaply outside Europe than in Europe."

According to the survey, 1955 was another year of rapid economic expansion in Western Europe. Industrial production rose by about 10 per cent, on top of a similar rise in 1954.

There was remarkably little deterioration in the balance of trade with overseas countries. In most of Western Europe exports as well as imports increased faster than production.

AMERICAN SOPRANO FOR INDIA

New York, Mar. 22. Leonore Erickson, one of the leading Negro sopranos in the United States, will leave by plane on Sunday for India, where she is to give seven concerts in New Delhi, Calcutta, Madras and Bombay.

Miss Price was a member of the company of the American opera "Porgy and Bess" that toured Europe. She will be accompanied to India by David Garver, pianist.

The tour is being arranged by the American National Theatre Academy's international exchange programme, which represents the US State Department in administering tours of American artists.—United Press.

Nubar Gulbenkian In London



Mr. Nubar Gulbenkian, whose all-millionaire father Calouste Gulbenkian ("Mr. Five Per Cent") died last year, is pictured with his wife in London. Father and son were different character types—Calouste a lonely man, Nubar a pleasure-loving one—and for years they were barely on speaking terms, the result of a severe quarrel. Nubar's fondness for the good life is exemplified by his car—a and his wife both own Rolls-Royces, his having licence number NSG 2, hers NSG 3.—Express Photo.

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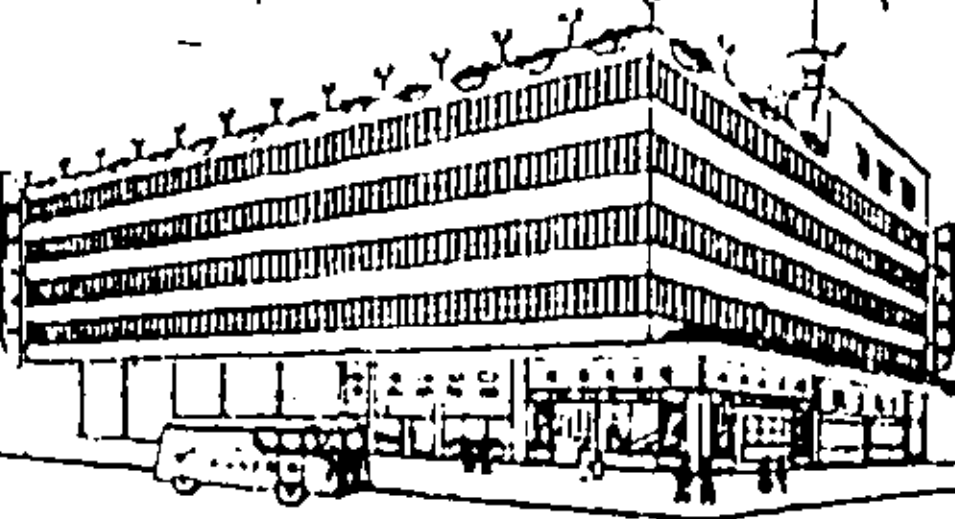
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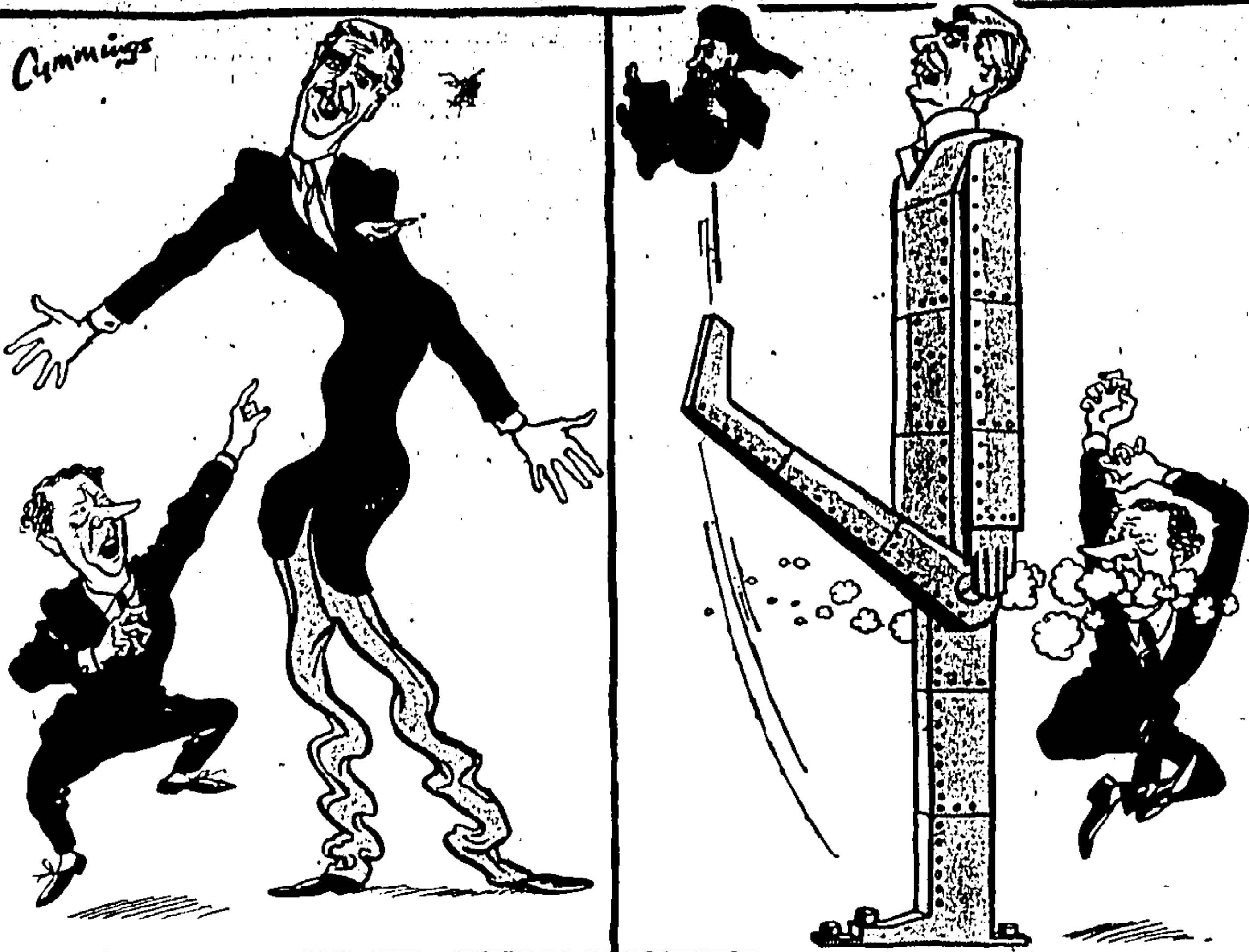
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SIR ANTHONY CAN'T DO RIGHT... by CUMMINGS



"WHEN I'M FLEXIBLE, GAITSKELL CALLS ME 'SPINELESS' WHEN I'M INFLEXIBLE HE FOAMS AT THE MOUTH."

Once the most fashionable of portrait painters,

the value of some of Sir William Orpen's

pictures has slumped badly. Recently two big

canvases were knocked down for 55 guineas the pair



ORPEN
by
ORPEN

This self-portrait
was done
in 1926.

SIR WILLIAM TAKES A HAMMERING

by JOHN WATERMAN

IN a voice which contained the undertaker's blend of sadness, respect and reverence, the Bond Street art dealer said: "A pity to see Orpens go for as little as that — not much more than the price of their frames."

He was referring to two pictures by Sir William Orpen, the buoyant Irish-born artist who died in 1931. They were big canvases, measuring 50 inches by 40, of Mr and Mrs Edwin Bacon, dated 1925.

About this time it was highly fashionable to have Orpen paint your portrait. He accepted many commissions — at fees up to £1,500 a time.

At Sotheby's recently the pictures fetched 55 guineas — the pair.

It is a sad fact that while the works of so many artists are realising high prices, the portraits of Sir William Orpen today figure in the bargain basement of the art world.

An even sadder observation is that when Orpen was at the summit of his fame few would have then forecast that investment in his portraits would 30 years later be proved hardly worthwhile. In the 1920's, outside Orpen's studio in Bolton Gardens, there would sometimes be two or three cars belonging to people awaiting a sitting. In a good year his income from portrait painting has been estimated at £50,000. To his rich clients Orpen must have appeared a figure of imperishable fame and reputation.

Highest figure

WITHIN 45 minutes at Christie's in 1920, a collection of 36 portraits of delegates at the Paris Peace Conference, the property of Canadian steel magnate Sir James Dunn, realised nearly £13,500. The highest individual figure reached was in the sale of a picture of American President Woodrow Wilson: £2,730. At the Royal Academy summer exhibition in 1928 the top price — and sale — at the show was an Orpen picture: £2,100.

Yet a look over the auction deals of Orpen's works in the last 10 years shows hardly a portrait listed. The highest price in 1935, apart from that of Orpen for the picture of General John Joseph Pershing, was £1,100. His other pictures have fared somewhat better. But in the last 10 years at public auctions 380 guineas is the highest figure paid for an Orpen, and most pictures went for considerably less. By 1930 his stock had begun to fall. A picture called the Roscommon Volunteer fetched £320. In 1927 the same picture had been sold for £1,102, 10s.

No wall space

WHAT is the reason? Few people today possess the wall space that an Orpen portrait needs. Apart from that, Orpen is still suffering the decline which almost inevitably follows the death of a fashionable portrait painter.

It may be thought misleading to judge the state of the market on just a few deals. But if people really wanted to buy, then, presumably, more of

Orpen's pictures would find their way to the sales rooms — at higher figures.

A dealer summed up: "A good Orpen will still fetch a reasonable price. In the case of his portraits, if the subject were good, that might fetch a reasonable price, too. But there is virtually no market at all for his portraits, and only some demand for his other pictures."

In the same year, 1878, as Orpen was born in Ireland, Augustus John, who is still alive, was born in Wales. Although John was a more flamboyant figure than Orpen — he has been called The Legend, The Gipsy of Parnassus, The True Bohemian, and A Kind of English Goya — the careers of the two artists at times ran parallel.

Both Orpen and John were at the Slade together. They went to Provence at the same time to paint, in the early years of the century. Augustus John, before

the war, was also a highly fashionable portrait painter. His fee was £1,500 to £2,000. He painted prolifically. It is said he Symonds. The lowest was £52 in 1931.

The highest figure for an Augustus John picture, other than a portrait, at a public auction in the same period is the 1,250 guineas paid a few months ago for The Woman on the Hill. It is exceptional.

Here, then, are illustrations of a truth of art commerce: all that glitters in a gilt frame is not gold. This has always applied, but in the present days of boom in the auction rooms — apparently immune from the credit squeeze — and with the consequent publicity given to record deals, the less lucrative facets of art buying are often overlooked. They are therefore all the more worth recording.

The current market values of Orpen and John are no reflection on either man. The fate of each is at the mercy of a capricious judge — public taste, which regards an artist as Jekyll and Hyde by turns.

Thus, if current fashions are followed, art buying will provide only one certain conclusion. That after the hope of riches an auction in the last decade

Art commerce

IT is rare to find today the kind of art paid for an Augustus John painting that would bear comparison with the fees he charged twenty years ago. As with Orpen, few of John's portraits come into the market. The top price for a John portrait at an auction in the last decade

THE COLONIAL OFFICE IS UNDER ATTACK

By JAMES WICKENDEN

London. The Colonial Office is being attacked from several quarters for its policy of promoting self-government.

The President of the Penang Straits Chinese-British Association, Hoah Joo Seang, speaks of the "defeatist spirit" under the guise of democracy. He says Whitehall's policy of giving away Malaya has bitterly disappointed British subjects, including the Straits Chinese, who are British by birth in the territories of Penang, Malacca and Singapore.

Mr Marshall's anti-British speeches in Singapore have

raised a similar storm. Even the Singapore Standard writes that Marshall "expects (after his London visit) to be given a free hand for governing an independent Singapore with its sordid picture of a hymn of hate against the British in the colony."

One of the anomalies in Singapore's ousting of British administrators is that some of them have more claim to being "local" than many Chinese, having been in the colony longer than recent immigrants from China.

At even more surprising at

policy was made by the Governor of Northern Rhodesia himself, Sir Arthur Benson. Speaking at a private meeting recently, he said: "History has shown over the past few years that the House of Commons has only one object in mind — shoulder off this wretched responsibility as quickly as possible. Look at India, Burma, the Gold Coast, Nigeria, and now Malaya. I want to get rid of the Colonial Office in Northern Rhodesia as quickly as possible, and the curious thing is that the one chap in the world who is anxious to give us self-government as soon as possible is the Secretary of State for the Colonies."

SQUEEZE TOWN

Short-time working hits the motor industry, but in Coventry savings are still GOING UP

By ALEXANDER THOMSON

Coventry. In his large and peaceful room at the Standard Motor works 39-year-old Alick Dick sipped a mid-morning coffee and said: "I am harried, but not harassed."

Here, in Coventry, few people seem to be harassed as yet by the short-time working that has burst upon the motor industry.

Motorcar companies, including Standard's, where young Mr Dick is managing director, encircle this city.

One way and another they provide jobs for 65,000 men and women. It works out at 40 out of every 100 working folk in the area.

Their pay packets, averaging between £15 and £16 a week in some firms, are the biggest stream of wealth into Coventry each Friday night.

For years this has made it the boom city of the Midlands.

Casual acquaintances will tell you that dustmen earn up to £15 a week with overtime.

Brisk business

That a man-and-wife team, working as driver and "clippie" on local buses, can earn up to £38 a week.

And that you still pay 9d. here for things that cost 6d. in other Midlands towns and cities.

The shops round the brand-new and glistening main square say that trade is as brisk as ever.

But they explain that it is only 18 months or so since Coventry had its big shops rebuilt after the Hitler bombing. So comparisons are a bit unreliable.

However, Mr Hill, who manages the labour exchange here, reports that he has 2,500 jobs to offer and only 800 on his list of unemployed.

A rayon factory is offering jobs at £11 10s. a week. Coppersmiths are wanted at £11 to £13 a week. And motor mechanics in garages at £12 10s. a week.

There are also jobs going for gear cutters, constant setter-operators, and a What's-My-Line? occupation of horizontal, universal and vertical millers.

Harried

Mr Hill says there are few takers so far. His big and rambling labour exchange is having a quiet time.

But Mr Herbert Powles, who manages the Coventry Savings Bank, finds business brisker.

In the past month new savings handed over by customers have averaged £68,000 a week, which is £12,000 up on a year ago.

Mr Powles has 60,000 saving accounts, mostly with working folk in the district.

When short time started at the car factories an expected increase in withdrawals. This has not happened. Instead, savings have gone up. Mr Powles thinks this is partly due

to people spending more carefully in case short time should spread.

But what about the "harried but not harassed" Mr Dick, who holds down one of the biggest jobs in Coventry?

As day-to-day boss of Standard's Motors he has 14,000 workers on his payroll.

"The motor industry," he says, "is bound to have its ups and downs. But the trend must be upwards."

The threat

Alick Dick moves across from his big desk to a fireside armchair in his managing director's room.

On the mantelpiece is a photograph of his wife and three children. Another is on a windowsill by the boardroom table.

He tugs at a home-knitted plain grey pullover and adds: "Living standards everywhere just go on increasing to keep the threat of Communism away, and that means a growing demand for cars over the years."

At the other side of Coventry Sir William Lyons surveys with pride the Jaguar car business he has built up from making side-cars for motorcycles.

Last year his speedy cars earned a high pile of dollars. This year he hopes it will be higher still.

Yes, he says, overseas markets are likely to broaden.

But he admits to a nagging worry about British firms being able to compete in them unless there is a halt to wage demands.

"A reduction in prices is needed," he declares. "Yet prices are more likely to go up than down."

Challenge

Ten minutes' drive away, Mr Dick Smith, big and bulky and outspoken, disagrees that prices cannot be reduced.

He looks more like a successful farmer than the managing director in charge of making sleek Daimlers.

"In most car factories," declares this Mr Smith, "output could be raised by at least 15 percent to 20 percent per man-week."

This would not mean any reduction in piece-work rates.

"So a man could earn more, while the companies would have savings in overheads to help lower prices."

This is the challenge for the future. But in the streets of Coventry you get the impression that few are ready to listen to advice of that sort just now.

Doubts

For amid today's doubts there are still hopes that this home market for cars will soon begin to blossom again now that spring is here.

The bosses in their factories, though, are not so sure.

They believe that if present curbs do not continue to keep home sales down, others will quickly follow.

Coventry may have a lot more to learn yet about being a Square City.

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KNOW YOUR NATIONAL HORSES DEVON LOCH IS IDEAL TYPE FOR AINTREE

By RICHARD BAERLEIN

In the 10-year-old Devon Loch the Queen Mother has a "chaser of the ideal Aintree calibre. He is a big, bold jumper with unlimited stamina, and, though he is rather lacking in finishing speed, this will not count against him in the Grand National.

Peter Cazalet had no easy time with this horse when he first came from Ireland.

It may not be generally realised that at the beginning of this season, although nearly 10 years old, Devon Loch had taken part in only 10 races. Some horses run more often than that as two-year-olds. He first ran in the season 1951-52, and, after three outings over hurdles, it was at once realised that he did not have the speed or the muscle and shape for this branch of the sport.

HIS FIRST

He had his first race over fences at Hurst Park on January 17, 1952, when beaten by four lengths by Mont Tremblant, who was at that time the most brilliant novice "chaser" in the country.

From that day until December 11, 1954—a period of almost two years—Devon Loch appeared only once on a race-course. He had broken down. The skill and patience of Cazalet and his veterinary sur-

geons did not go unrewarded, for on February 5 a year ago Devon Loch won his first race—the £1,000 New Century "Chase at Hurst Park, where he beat Ballymore by two lengths with stable companion Lochroe unplaced.

Then came victory in another £1,000 race, the Beech Open "Chase at the Sandown Grand Military Meeting, which he won by 12 lengths, giving the second, Linwell, 12th. He fell in the Mildmay "Chase at Liverpool.

This completed a most satisfactory season, for the horse not only justified his purchase price in Ireland but he also rewarded those who had spent three years making him into a racehorse. For this his trainer deserves most of the credit.

Devon Loch has made even further progress this season, though his two victories combined hardly add up in prize money to either of last year's successes.

ONE MISTAKE

In the Mildway Memorial Handicap "Chase over three miles five furlongs at Sandown in January he was beaten narrowly into third place by Linwell and Wiso Child. He made one mistake at the 18th fence but coming to the last he still had a chance.

He was giving Linwell 23lb. this time, and lack of finishing speed up the Sandown hill prevented Devon Loch being any nearer.

The race told his Grand National supporters all they wanted to know, and he will be an even better horse at Aintree than he is on park courses.

HIS RECORD

Devon Loch, a 10-year-old bay or brown gelding by Devonian out of Coolleen, is trained by P. V. Cazalet, at Twickenham (Kent) for the Queen Mother. He has not run over the Grand National course, and has been allotted 11st. 4lb. in this year's National.

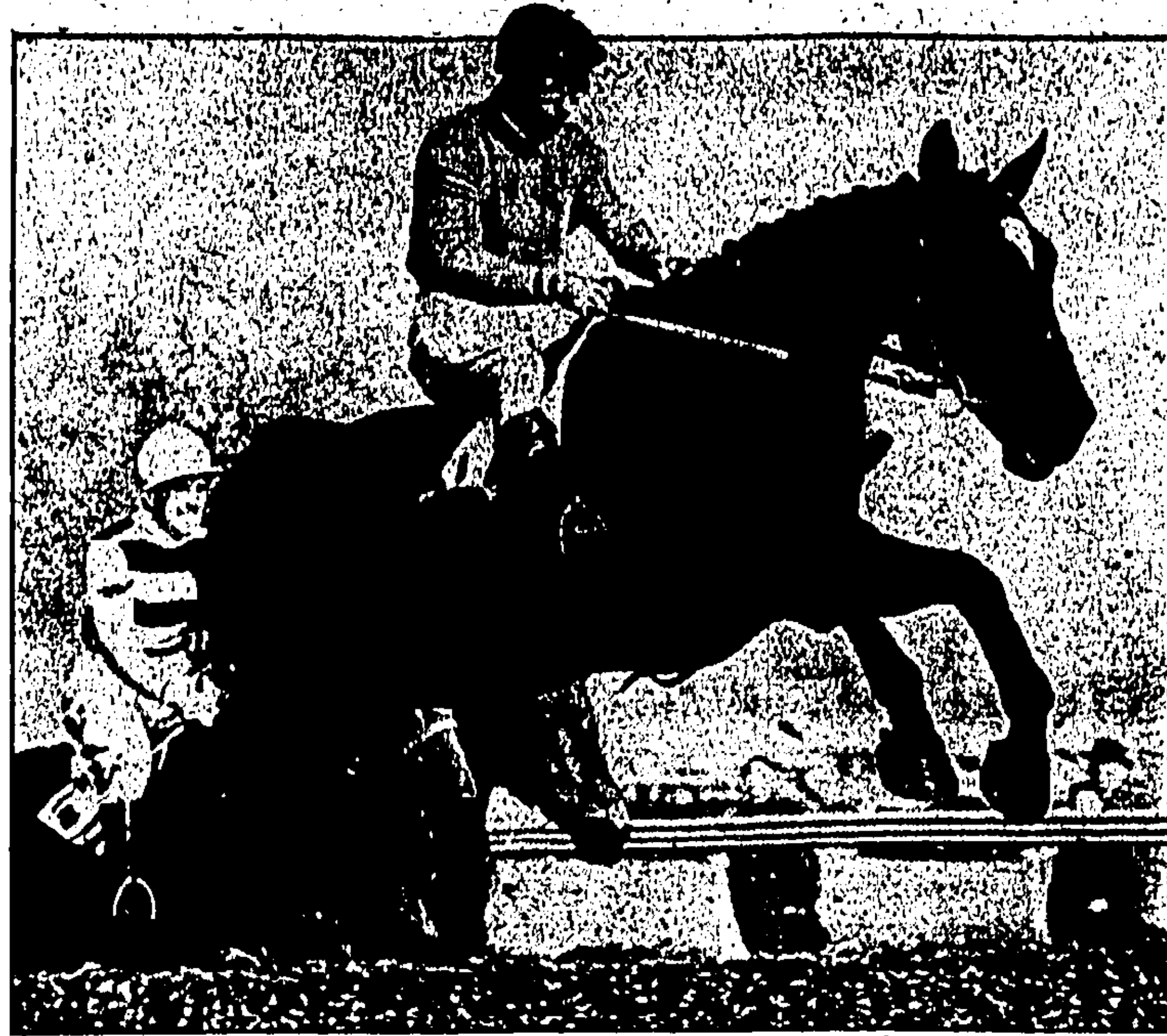
He has run five times this season, his record being 4 1 1 0 3. He won by four lengths from Red Trump (10-6) over three miles at Lingfield (November 25), when carrying 11-11, and by three-quarters of a length from Cottage Lane (10-12) over three miles 12½ yards at Sandown (December 14), when carrying 11-0.

On his last appearance he was third (11-4) one and a half lengths and a short head behind Linwell (9-9) and Wiso Child (11-5) over three miles five furlongs at Sandown (January 21).

Devon Loch's record last season: 0 1 3 1 0.

(—London Express Service.)

(COPYRIGHT)



Devon Loch . . . a big, bold jumper with unlimited stamina.

NOT GUILTY!

This Is No Time For Schoolboy Heroics

Says GEORGE WHITING

'Who threw the buckets of water over Umpire Begh? Nobody outside the closed doors of Lord's can say exactly who were the guilty little boys of Peshawar—the crackpot English cricketers whose idea of a jolly jape has brought the MCC tour of Pakistan into the turbulent realm of national pride and involved the authorities here in a series of abject apologies.

But I CAN name some of the innocent. Followers of cricket for cricket's sake will be pleased to know that Tony Lock, the Surrey and England spinner, was not, I repeat not, involved in this inexcusable horseplay.

Nor was Maurice Tompkin, the Leicestershire batsman. Nor Alan Watkins, Glamorgan's all-rounder. Nor the Middlesex pair, Fred Titmus and Alan Moss.

Manager Geoffrey Howard, it will be found if ever Lord's take the lid off this utterly regrettable affair, has absolved all these professionals—and one or two others—from any share of blame.

Not that Lock and other guiltless parties are shirking their portion of responsibility. When captain D. B. Carr leads his rightly criticised cricketers home, they will be exuding team spirit, and their joint defence will go something like this:

HK Bridge Team Back From Manila

Members of the local bridge team returned here from Manila by PAL yesterday with the trophy they won after competing in the first Interport duplicate bridge contest with the Philippines.

David Miao, the Captain said they played a total of 98 boards and won 48 International Match Points. Giving his opinion of Filipino's bridge standard, he said they were steady and played quite a good defensive game. "But Hongkong is much more experienced in the bidding," he added.

He said he believed there is a good possibility of the Filipino players coming here for a series of games in November. The challenge trophy was donated by San Miguel Brewery.

Other members of the team were Mr Dodge Chen, Mr Howard Hoffman, Mr George Tsing and Mr Y. T. Fong.

BASSEY WINS

Liverpool, England, Mar. 22. Hogan Bassey, Nigerian holder of the British Empire Featherweight boxing title, defeated Louis Cabo, of Belgium, who retired with a nose injury in the fourth round of their 10-round bout here tonight. —Reuters.

HOME SOCCER

London, Mar. 22. Result of Association Football match played today: League III Northern: Scunthorpe United 1 Rochdale 2.—Reuters.

"We are in this mess together. We went out to Pakistan as a team, and even been together for three hard months, never out of each other's company in success or failure, but with never a word of dissent among us."

Very commendable. But this affair is far too serious for stiff upper lips and schoolboy heroics of the don't-let's-split-on-Smith variety.

Lord's have rightly demanded that the sheep be separated from the goats—but, so far, for their own if our cricket has not always been 'tops', we have stayed as a team, throughout. We have information only. My opinion is that the names of the "sheep" should be known more widely, and as quickly as possible.

One of them is Lock. He, it will be recalled, was a late choice for Pakistan and the subject of "naughty boy" rumours during the last MCC tour of the West Indies. His was the name first whispered here when the water was tipped over the luckless Begh in Peshawar.

NOW KNOW

Well, Lord's now know enough to leave Lock out of any penalties they may feel obliged to impose when Messrs Carr and Co. come home.

If the Surrey left-armed is not called upon against the Australians this summer, it will be because of some assumed shortcoming in his bowling—not because he forgot his manners or his responsibilities as a cricketer. The same applies to Test-players Titmus and Watkins, and, indeed, to all the other clean-sheeters in Pakistan.

I only wish that D. B. Carr, captain, and W. H. Sutcliffe, vice-captain, could be similarly freed from personal blame for the guiding episode. Unfortunately, I understand that the evidence offers no such absolution for either of these bright young bloods.

A LUXURY

Any member of the Pakistan party will tell you that Carr and Sutcliffe are jolly decent chaps. Maybe. But cricket tour history in general and the Pakistan trip in particular suggests that decent chaps without the gift of imposing discipline—off the field as well as on it—are an expensive luxury. Leadership with its traditional setting, example, should not be lightly shelved when it is most needed.

What sort of report has gone to Lord's? My own inquiries in Pakistan reveal these facts: Mr Idris Begh, a snappily-dressed Karachi jeweller, is by all accounts a hot-so-hot umpire who was tossed out of Test match "standing" in the objection of India last year, but later reinstated by Pakistan in time for the games against MCC. Our caper-bulging cricketers thought him safe game for "the

water treatment they had inflicted on George Duckworth and others earlier in the tour. They were dead wrong. . . . Especially at a time when Begh was umpiring a controversial Test, which although on its last legs, was not quite dead.

However, after dinner at the MCC players' hotel, it was planned that Begh be invited to one of their rooms and the water-works turned on. But Begh returned unexpectedly with Hafiz Kardar and other Pakistanis to his own hotel at which point the practical jokers would have been better advised to have dropped the whole tomfool idea and gone to bed.

WATER PISTOLS

Instead, six of the party charged after the luckless Begh in two tongas—horse-drawn carriages. Two or three armed themselves with water pistols and wrapped handkerchiefs over the lower halves of their faces.

They grabbed Begh's arms and legs, hi-jacked him into one of the tongas, and hauled him back to their own hotel—with Khan, Mohammed, Mahmood Hussain and Shaukudin of Pakistan following later to see what happened.

Meanwhile, the angry Begh had been taken to one of the rooms and dumped in a chair. Asked if he would like a drink, he said he would take water. And he got it—two bucketsful about his head and shoulders.

Then Khan Mohammed and Shaukudin and Mahmood Hussain turned up, saw the usually immaculate Begh looking like a bedraggled floundering—and laughed openly. That did it. Begh busied out "The English jokers provided a tonga to take him back to his hotel, where he yelled blue murder and bellowed over with a lurid account of the ducking to Pakistani players and the Press.

Khan and the others wanted to pour oil on the bubbling waters. Too late. Those two bucketsful had become a turbulent scene—and the rest is unhappy cricket history.

HUMBLED

It is the evidence of such an account, complete with names, that the MCC here have felt compelled to scramble round with humble and belated apologies.

Can they do more? Yes. They can publicly absolve the innocent; make certain that none of these irresponsible water babies takes any further part in representative cricket; and make equally certain that no team ever leaves this country without a disciplinary officer to exercise control over the off-field activities of the players.

If England cricketers cannot behave themselves, then they obviously need a big stick. —(London Express Service.)

SIR MICHAEL BALCON SAYS...

LET'S STOP THIS MOANING ABOUT BRITISH FILMS

Let us stop all this defeatist talk about the future of British films. There is no reason for it whatsoever. It can be a very bright future indeed if we are prepared to work for it.

We have had our hard times. We have made our bad pictures and had our well-earned failures at Ealing as at other studios. But if we can keep up our present standards and sell our films with all the effort they deserve I see great chances ahead.

Much depends, of course, on our release from the punitive burden of entertainment tax, and also on the combination of the Production Levy at a reasonably high level.

On the face of it the gloom-mongers have lately had a field day. When Korda died they said it was the end of London Films. When we sold Ealing Studios to the BBC they said it was the end of Ealing pictures. When I left the Rank Organisation after ten years they said it was the end of me.

True there will never be another Korda, but even after his death the tradition of his Big Ben trade mark goes on, and with it all the splendid producers and directors who worked under his banner.

Ealing's position I can explain quite simply. We sold our studios because the BBC offered a price we could not refuse. Furthermore, we were physically out-growing the place.

ADMIRABLE

The time was coming when new production techniques would demand more space than our studios possessed and we would have had to move sooner or later. On the other hand, the studios will admirably suit the short TV films the BBC plans to make there.

The sale of Ealing Studios created a new set of circumstances. The Rank Organisation held the view—quite properly from their standpoint—that make films for their distribution necessitated our working at Pinewood as part of a large and important programme.

We feared that this might involve losing something of Ealing's particular identity.

My colleague Major R. P. Bax and I have just returned from New York with an MGM contract that will enable us to carry on our Ealing policy at Elstree and give our films a wider world distribution than ever before—in particular an American outlet we could never have hoped for in any other deal.

That is our own great opportunity, but I perceive great opportunities over there for British films in general—so long as we meet the challenge with real determination and show that we can not only produce the goods but deliver them.

While I was in New York 25 per cent of the cinema-goers in my own country were for British films. Not only Ealing films like "The Ladykillers", "Lease of Life", and "The Night My Number Came Up", but "Richard III", "Doctor At Sea", "The Prisoner", and "Dance, Little Lady".

FOOLISH

They were showing mostly in what they call art houses—little theatres specialising in connoisseurs' pictures—but I was never one to turn up my nose at art houses and I think anyone would be foolish to do so.

But the Americans are naturally prejudiced in favour of their own produce and only first-class films with tough, inspired salesmanship behind them will enable us to hold our own in their cinemas.

The time is ripe. I found a genuine interest in British pictures when I was in New York—and what is more, a growing interest in British stars. Every Alec Guinness picture is at a premium over there, and mark my words—Jack Hawkins will be the next big name.

He is having a great success there, with Guinness at the moment in "The Prisoner" (I can say it without blushing when it is not a film of mine), and also on TV with the major showing he will secure with "The Man in the Sky", our first film under the new MGM deal, beginning next month, should really seal his American fame.

I have come home with less reason than ever to believe there is any anti-British feeling in the industry: any of this "ganging-up" against us which the ill-informed talk about so glibly—sometimes, I regret to say, in places as responsible as the House of Commons.

But we must be prepared to sell what we want them to buy. There is no room for spoon-feeding in an industry as competitive as this. We cannot expect the Americans to do our

work for us, and that has been too often the case in the past.

NEEDED

We have made distribution deals first with one American company and then with another. They have done their best within their own limitations to secure us as many bookings as possible.

But I would be much happier to see British experts selling British films to the Americans in the language they understand and on the same scale as we promote other products abroad.

No praise can be too high for the efforts of Mr John Davis, who has done more to spread British films abroad than anyone else in the industry and really put Ealing films on the world map during our company's ten years' alliance with the Rank Organisation.

But important though it is, the Rank Organisation is not the entire British film industry and we need an all-out concerted effort to show that our best films stand comparison with any in the world.

Nor can we afford to take the home market for granted. We have to compete with American films in our own cinemas as well as in theirs, and I feel we have not gone about it as we should.

On the production side we have concentrated too often on quality where the watchwords should be quality and consistency. On the sales side we have tended to treat all films alike instead of handling them as individual works of art, each calling for its own special kind of promotion.

Britain has the finest film technicians in the world, but they are craftsmen, not machines, and you cannot expect them to turn out films on a conveyor belt.

Some of our Ealing directors have gone a whole year without finding a subject they could film with any real conviction. Script writers like T. E. B. Clarke and William Rose have spent months searching for the right comic idea.

It is not for me to harry creative brains like theirs. I know that when they get down to work they will make a good job of it.

RIDICULOUS

I have not always practised what I preach, but at any rate that should be one approach to film-making. It is ridiculous to pretend that we can match Hollywood's output. The question should not be how many films we can make but how good we can make them.

You might ask what right have I to talk about British films when I have thrown in my lot with a Hollywood company, but I give my solemn assurance that under this deal with MGM

the Ealing pattern will remain unchanged.

Had there been the slightest danger of Americanising our pictures under the new contract it would never have been made. And it is only fair to say that MGM never even suggested such a thing.

Our contract specifies a strict distinction between production and distribution. The Ealing team will produce the pictures without interference from MGM, and MGM will release them without interference from us.

We are moving our entire Ealing creative personnel—directors, associate producers, writers, and technicians—to Elstree.

ANARCHISTS

There we shall go on making drama with a documentary background and comedies about ordinary people with the stray eccentric among them—films about day-dreamers, mild anarchists, little men who long to kick the boss in the teeth.

Naturally if a part crops up that calls specifically for an American actor we shall use one, just as we should use a Frenchman or an Abyssinian where the occasion arose, and we shall be grateful to draw on MGM's supply of stars.

But there will be no question of injecting an American flavour into our films for the sake of it. I have seen too much of that in British pictures and the result invariably has been jarringly hybrid.

I still believe that the only truly international picture is a national one. That, I maintain, is what the Americans expect from our studios, and that, I promise, is what they will get from me.

King's Own Regt Wins Land Forces Fencing Title

The 1 King's Own Royal Regiment annexed the Team Challenge Shield by defeating the 1 Essex Regiment in the final of the Land Forces Light Weapon Fencing Championships at Chatham Road yesterday.

The King's Own Royal Regiment, with Sgt R. Forbes and 2/Lt Jackson in great form, were just able to beat the Essex Regiment team in which Sgt Day was outstanding. The scores were 14 to 13.

The following were the teams:

King's Own: 2/Lt Jackson, Sgt R. Forbes, Cpl. R. Alsop, 1/Cpl. J. Gillett, Cpl. M. Walker, Pte. T. N. Hughes, Pte. H. Fairbrother.

Essex Regiment: 2/Lt Hutchings, 2/Lt R. Sibyl, 2/Lt D. R. Lockstone, SSI B. E. Mackley, Sgt Day, Pte Dignum.

The scores were: Felt: King's Own 3 Essex 6; Sabre: King's Own 5 Essex 4; Epee: King's Own 6 Essex 3. Honours in the Individual Championships were divided. Sgt Day of the Essex Regiment captured both the Foil and Sabre titles. Sgt Forbes took the Epee crown.

The following are the results of the individual events. Epee: 1, Sgt Forbes (King's Own); 2, Sgt Day (Essex); 3, 2/Lt Jackson (King's Own).

Foil: 1, Sgt Day (Essex); 2, 2/Lt Jackson (King's Own); 3, Sgt Forbes (King's Own).

Epee: 1, Sgt Day (Essex); 2, Sgt Forbes (King's Own); 3, S/Sgt Johns (Buffs Regt).

Nominate YOUR Hongkong Footballer Of The Year

Members of the public are invited to nominate Hongkong's Footballer of the Year for the current season.

It is a popularity poll organised by the China Mail, and nomination coupons will be accepted until the closing date to be announced later.

The two qualifications for nomination are:
(1) Footballing prowess
(2) Sportsmanship on the field of play

Nominations should be addressed to the Editor, China Mail, Wyndham Street.

To the Editor, China Mail.

My nomination for Hongkong's Footballer of the Year, taking into regard his playing ability and his sportsmanship on the field of play is

of the.....Club.

(Signed).....

BRITISH & US ARMS GIFT FOR LIBYA

Wartime Comradeship
Continues In Peace



For the SOUTH CHINA MORNING POST and the CHINA MAIL, 48 hours before date of publication.

Special Announcements and Classified Advertisements as usual.

When in Macau
stay at the
POUSADA INN,
Praia Grande,
Cable Pousada.

YES, YES... IF THESE "PAPERS" ARE AS YOU DESCRIBE... *IF*... *WELL*... WE MAY HAVE A CERTAIN INTEREST IN THEM!

... I DO TWO THINGS...

By Frank Robbins



THE AMERICANS! THEY CLOSE IN ON US... ON FOOT... AND BY COPTER!

H. E. the Governor has appointed Mr L. B. Stone to be an Unofficial Justice of the Peace for the Colony of Hong Kong, it was announced in the Government Gazette today.

China, People's Republic, 10.30
a.m.
Macao, 1 p.m.
Korea, 4 p.m.
Macao, 0 p.m.

H.E. the Governor, with the approval of the Secretary of State for the Colonies, has granted Certificates of Naturalisation under the British Nationality Act to the following persons, who was announced in the Government Gazette today:-

Mr Yuen Ging-yuk (clerk),
Mr Philip Chen (flight purser),
Mr Chan Cheuk-kin (merchant), Mr Koo Jeay-ling (merchant), Mr Lee Ying-fen (school teacher), Miss Agnes Henrietta Wou (airline stewardess), Mr Nelson Horatio Young (student).

Under an order by the Governor in Council, the maximum number of names which the Registrar shall include in the list of special jurors shall not exceed 500. It was announced in the Government Gazette today.

...this situation
calls for a
**San
Miguel**

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

MARKET IN DOLDRUMS

Turnover Falls
Below \$2m
Shares Hard To Sell

By A Special Correspondent

Since February 1, 16 Hongkong companies have either paid or will shortly be paying shareholders more than \$49 million in dividends, bonuses and bonus issues.

Yet the share market turnover in one week cannot reach \$2 million. It seems incredible.

This week's turnover—\$1.69 million—was one of the lowest recorded for many years. Brokers have lots of ingenious theories why but none appears to offer a completely satisfactory explanation for this flight of capital from the stock market.

Telephones' balance sheet was released this week. It disclosed a profit of \$4,285,879 against \$3,012,899 in 1954. Their distribution is \$1.50 and 25 cents bonus which will absorb \$3,325,000.

Conditions were so quiet and there was so little buying interest this week that one broker could not dispose of a parcel of 500 Electric shares, which is normally a very common transaction.

\$25 Million Call

One broker attributes the absence of buyers to the fact that three utility companies are asking for \$25 million capital from shareholders in a call and two share issues. The belief is that this has drawn off much of the money that might otherwise have been used for investment.

This broker also believes that some shareholders with no liquid cash and with no chance of arranging bank overdrafts to finance their new issue purchases are selling other stock to raise money.

As there are few buyers, prices are falling.

In previous years some brokers might have "cancelled" surplus shares on their own account or bought them out right. Then they would have disposed of them gradually without unsettling or unduly depressing the market.

This year, with credit restrictions in operation, they cannot do it.

And brokers fear that if liquidation fails to provide sufficient capital to finance the new issues, the market may be flooded with unwanted rights.

Brokers blame competition from the gold market, the Middle East situation, the Panama situation, the forthcoming British budget and the credit squeeze in Hongkong.

Many Causes

All are possibly contributory factors to the present situation but considering that \$49 million has either just been or is about to be paid out in dividends and bonuses, considering the uncountable millions that have been paid out in Chinese New Year bonuses, and considering the market turnover a month ago was more than \$7 million, I find it hard to believe that credit restrictions alone have so drained the market of capital that there is none left for investment.

A glance at the adjoining panel shows that the worst hit shares on the market were the Utilities. Of six quoted, five were lower (by at least 40 cents) and one (Star Ferry) was steady.

Of the other 23 shares, nine were lower, two were higher and 12 were steady on the week.

The daily share market reports tell the dismal story of the market this week. Monday: "Trading at a standstill. Market lacks interest." Tuesday: "Featureless. Market prices inclined to sag to lower levels." Wednesday: "Quiet and featureless. A few bargains at lower levels." Yesterday: "Business restricted to meagre proportions with most shares losing further ground."

The shares that are holding up well at the moment, apart from those that are closely held and therefore rarely dealt in, are Banks, Wharves, Docks, Lights and possibly Wheelocks.

With little change in raw rubber prices in Singapore (they closed at 97 1/2 Straits a lb yesterday) the rubber market has been dull.

Two Balance Sheets

A dividend and two balance sheets require brief mention. The Hongkong and Kowloon Wharf and Godown Company announced a \$4 dividend which will absorb \$120,000. Last year they passed their dividend after sustaining a loss of \$132,748.

★ The Share Market At A Glance ★

	Feb 23	Mar 1	Mar 8	Mar 15	Mar 22	Up & down
HK Bank	1750	1680d	1685	1670	1670	steady
Lombard	57	50 1/2	50b	50b	50b	steady
Union	980	975b	990	980	970	—\$10
Underwriters	9.10b	9.10a	9.30	9.30a	9.30a	steady
Union Wharf	20b	20b	27 1/2b	17 1/2b	17 1/2b	steady
Wharves	8.75a	8.60	8.50	8.40	8.20	—20b
HK Dock	72	70b	72	72m	72	steady
HK Hotels	34b	35	34 1/2	35 1/2	35 1/2	steady
Provident	14.75m	14.10	14.25m	14.20	13.50bxd	—40c
HK Land	17.90	18.50	18.40	14.50mxd	14.50a	steady
Humphreys	02 1/2	01 1/2	03	00xd	00	—\$1
HK Realty	10.75	10.50a	10.30xd	10.20	10.10a	steady
HK Tram	1.325	1.45b	1.60m	1.50a	1.45	—20c
Star Ferry	25	24.00	23.00	23.2xd	22.5b	—40c
Yau Ma Tei	145b	130mxd	136m	135b	135b	steady
Yau Ma Tei	104	105	100	105	101b	—\$4
Ch Lights (o)	21.80	21.70	21.00	21	20.20	—80c
Ch Lights (m)	10.10	10.00	10.75m	10.40a	10.30a	—50c
Electric	42 1/2	41 1/2	40 1/2	39.80	39.80	—\$1
HK Telephone	32	32 1/2	32 1/2	32 1/2	31.80	—\$1.20
G.I. Cement	38 1/2m	34xd	33 1/2	34	33 1/2	—750
Dairy Farm	17.40	17.40m	17.30	17.50	17.10	—50c
A.S. Watson	12.00	12.80a	11.80	10 1/2xd	10.80	+10c
Lane Crawford	30b	30b	30 1/2	30 1/2	30 1/2	steady
Yau Ma Tei	7a	6.65m	6.70b	6.65m	6.70	+5c
Allied	5.55a	5.25	5.35m	5.40a	5.20m	+45c
HK & FE Inv	11.30m	11.20m	11.30	11.30a	11.30a	steady
Textile Corp	5.35	5.40	5.25b	5.35	5.20b	—15c
Nanyang	7.75m	7.60	7.40b	7.40b	7.40b	—5c

New York Stocks
Sparked By
Rails Spurt

New York, Mar. 22.

A late sharp spurt in rails sparked a recovery in stocks today which more than erased yesterday's decline.

Rails ran up gains ranging to nearly 7 points in Southern Railway as Western and Eastern roads petitioned for authority to increase passenger fares by 5 per cent and, at the same time, the Government launched a full-scale investigation to determine why American railroads continue to lose money on passenger travel.

The rail, amounting to 2.87 in the rail average, lifted it to a new high since October 22, 1929.

Industrials ran up 3.02 in their average with oils and metals featuring. Utilities dipped 0.06, reflecting losses of nearly a point in Panhandle Eastern Pipe Line, more than 1 in People's Gas.

Of a total 1,179 issues traded, 560 were higher on the day, 367 lower.

Turnover Down

Trading turnover, came to only 2,650,000 shares compared with 2,930,000 yesterday.

Standard Oil, N.J. featured as the day's most active issue, improving fractionally. Elsewhere in oils, Standard of California spurted nearly 4, Texas Co. more than 4 points.

Metal shares continued in favour with Anaconda and Aluminum up around a point each, climax Molybdenum nearly 3 higher.

Bethlehem stood out in steels with a gain of nearly 2 points.

New York Stock Exchange bond volume was \$3,080,000.

American Stock Exchange volume was 1,200,000 shares.

Dow-Jones closing averages were:

30 Industrials 101.04

20 Rail 171.72

13 Utilities 100.73

40 Stocks 100.73

Common future price index 101.47

Commodity spot price index 161.40

Closing Prices

Alden Inc. 2 1/2

Allied Chemicals 2 1/2

Allied Mills Inc. 2 1/2

Allis-Chalmers 2 1/2

American Airlines 2 1/2

American Metal 2 1/2

Am. Mach. & Tool 2 1/2

American Tel. & Tel. 2 1/2

Am. Sugar Ref. 2 1/2

American Tel. & Tel. 2 1/2

Anaconda Copper 2 1/2

Armco Steel 2 1/2

Baldwin-Lima-Ham. 2 1/2

Baltimore & Ohio 2 1/2

Bethlehem Steel 2 1/2

Borg-Warner 2 1/2

Boeing Airplane 2 1/2

Borden (The) Co. 2 1/2

Burrage & Add. 2 1/2

Canadian Pacific 2 1/2

Cash (The) Co. 2 1/2

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NY COTTON
FUTURES
SEE-SAW

New York, Mar. 22.

Cotton futures today saw-sawed nervously over a range of \$2 a bale in moderately active dealings.

Alternate spurts of buying and selling reflected multiplying uncertainties revolving around farm legislation and Government plans for disposal of the raw cotton surplus.

Most interest centred on reports that the Government may drop the plan to sell surplus stocks overseas at competitive prices in favour of a subsidy programme.

Recommendations on a subsidy plan made to the Department of Agriculture by cotton trader leaders, were under consideration and awaited a decision.

Trade opinion differed on the question. While some quarters favoured a fixed subsidy rate, possibly up to eight cents a pound under the loan level—other quarters were in favour of a variable rate, set on a day-to-day basis, depending on market conditions.

Uncertainty on that score were matched by the confused farm bill picture. House Democratic leaders indicated they would fight in the conference for 90 per cent support on basic crops.

Administration leaders have indicated unless objectionable amendments are modified in conference the bill may be doomed to a veto.

Commission houses, New Orleans interests, and local traders operated on both sides of the market. July contracts sagged after an early sell-off, only to rally again on spot house buying. The certificated stock was unchanged at 12,763 bales.

The market closed net 2 to 8 points higher after showing a mid-afternoon gain up to 22 points. Opening prices were unchanged to up 12 points. New Orleans closed up 4 to 6 points.

Volume and open interest were:

Month 21,000 Open interest 35,000

July 7,100 22,000

August 7,100 22,000

September 7,100 22,000

October 7,100 22,000

November 7,100 22,000

December 7,100 22,000

January 7,100 22,000

February 7,100 22,000

March 7,100 22,000

April 7,100 22,000

May 7,100 22,000

June 7,100 22,000

July 7,100 22,000

August 7,100 22,000

September 7,100 22,000

October 7,100 22,000

November 7,100 22,000

December 7,100 22,000

January 7,100 22,000

Dollar Credits
For French
Importers

Paris, Mar. 22.

Dollar credits have been allocated to French importers of essential goods from the United States.

These essential goods were listed as follows:

Refrigerating compressors carried on motor vehicles; scientific instruments and testing machines; electrical equipment other than motors; finished pipes and accessories other than that made of cast iron; fixed and marine motors; pumps operating by other means than with fuel oil; nozzles; prototypes for refrigerators and air conditioning devices; equipment for metal processing industries; printing material; equipment for the textile industry; equipment for the bleaching industries; industrial sewing machines; machines for the hide and shoe industries; equipment for the handling, public works, crushing and mining industries; other than for petroleum boring; electric portable machines; machine-tools; pneumatic portable machine tools; reeling machines; material for glass making; electric motors; special batteries and accumulators; electric and radio electric measuring devices; electronic microscopes; and measuring instruments.

For imports from either the United States or Canada, the following were listed:

Equipment for the rubber and plastics industries, the chemical industries, the food industries and the pulp and paper industries; and farming machines.

The importers must add a note justifying the urgency of the equipment and explaining why it is essential to the French economy.—China Mail Special.

WORLD RUBBER MARKETS

New York, Mar. 22.

The No. 1 RSS rubber futures contract today closed 75 to 155 points lower with sales of 274 contracts.

The standard contract closed 80 to 120 points lower with sales of seven contracts.

Market action reflected lower London cables, heavier shipment offerings of all grades from the Far East at near a workable basis, plus small March liquidation.

Buyers backed away from the increased overseas offerings while factory buyers continued to mark time.

Locally, a small tonnage sold included some June one sheets at 32 1/2 cents; May four sheets at 31 1/2 cents and June numbers at 30 cents a pound, delivered basis.

Spot No. 1 RSS was quoted nominally at 33 1/2 cents.

Rubber Trade Association today announced approval of a new "landed contract" which permits delivery of one sheets not in excess of 1/2 grade off quality. Previously, no allowance was made. Futures:

Contract No. 1 RSS

March 32.25

May 32.75-33

July 32.15

September 31.95

December 30.70-30

Standard contract

March 32.40

May 31.90

July 31.90

September 31.90

December 30.30

SINGAPORE

The market eased during the day on lower overseas advice. At lower levels there was some fair trade interest but further selling in the afternoon caused the market to close barely steady. Futures:

No. 1 rubber per lb. April 93 1/2-93 3/4

May 94 1/2-94 3/4

June 94 3/4-95

July 95-95 1/2

August 95 1/2-95 3/4

September 95 3/4-96

October 96-96 1/2

November 96 1/2-96 3/4

December 96 3/4-97

January 97-97 1/2

February 97 1/2-97 3/4

March 97 3/4-98

LONDON MARKET
DRIFTS LOWER

London, Mar. 22.

Stocks drifted lower in quiet trading on the London Exchange today.

Fears of a continued Government credit squeeze coupled with yesterday's lower Wall Street levels tended to keep traders largely on the side-lines.

British Government stocks eased from the outset and finished with small losses although a steadier trend appeared just before the close.

Rolls-Royce Up

Industrials moved narrowly, with changes to around three-pence or a bit more. Rolls-Royce stood out with a one shilling advance.

Oil felt heavy selling, which pushed Royal Dutch more than £ 1/2 lower. Other oils drifted between one and two shillings.

Foreign bonds showed little tendency to move either way. Peruvian liens found demand, and German Young Loan non-assented gained about £ 1/2.

Profit-taking appeared in copper issue, with Rhodan Selection Trust a special victim. Gold shares eased.

15-day stocks were lower—United Press.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates—

15 dollar (per £1) 3.85

Sterling notes (per £1) 15.94

Australian notes (per £1) 12.44

Indonesian rupiah (per 100) 17.26

Siam (per 100) 26.06

Singapore (Straits) 1.86

200 lb sack \$13.00n

United Press

Grain Prices

Chicago, Mar. 22.

Prices in grain futures were steady to firm on the Board of Trade today.

Prices of grain futures closed in cents per bushel as follows:

Wheat, No. 2, red Spot 22 1/2-22 3/4

March 22 1/2-22 3/4

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SHEAFFERS
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JOHN CLARKE'S CASEBOOK

Story Of A Family Man

THE waiter was hurrying towards his home at the end of an evening's work, and all the men about him on the busy streets were potentially his enemies.

For any one of them might be a policeman in plain clothes, who might notice the bulge in the pockets of the waiter's jacket, and wonder what caused the bulge, and think it worth while to stop and inquire.

That would be that. For the waiter's pockets were stuffed with food he had stolen from the hotel where he worked.

ALMOST THERE

NEARLY the waiter, a short man with a neat mustache, whose name was Joe, went on his way, longing to board a bus and put a distance between himself and the scene of his crime.

He had almost reached the bus stop, when he stopped. At first Joe half hoped that the young man who stopped him was merely going to ask the way. For the stranger looked more like a student than a policeman.

"Excuse me," the stranger said, "but may I see what you have in your pockets? I'm a police officer."

YOU KNOW WHAT IT IS

"It's just this," said Joe, "just a bit of money and a few other things. It's for the kids, see. I got four of 'em, they've all been ill, on and off, want to give 'em a bit of nourishment. You know what it is with kids."

"Did you buy these things?" asked the policeman.

"Er... no, got the stuff from where I been working," Joe said. "Had you permission to take them?"

Joe shook his head.

At Clerkwell court next morning, he pleaded guilty to stealing 13s. worth of food from the hotel where he had been working as an extra waiter.

SINCE SCHOOL

THESE are two previous convictions against this man, said the young policeman. He was out on probation for larceny at Great Yarmouth in 1939, and again at the Thames Court in 1952.

"He has been in his present job since last September, earning £8 5s. a week, plus his food when on duty. He's been a waiter since leaving school; he's married and has four children. He pays 30s. a week for a four-room flat. The hotel's staff-manager is here."

The staff manager came forward. "I can only think," he said, "that this man's character was probably looked into when he was engaged by us. He would not have been engaged had we known about those convictions."

"Will he be dismissed?" the magistrate asked.

"Oh, yes, but that's no great hardship to a waiter," said the staff manager. "There's a great demand for them."

"What do you want to say?" Mr. Robey asked Joe.

"Only I been up against it."

Fog Causes Exercise To Be Cancelled

The second phase of Exercise "Sea Dragon" by units of Her Majesty's Far East Fleet was cancelled this morning due to unfavourable heavy fog in and around the Colony.

The ships taking part in the exercise, which included one cruiser, two aircraft carriers, and numerous other craft, began returning to harbour this morning after carrying out the first phase of the Exercise yesterday.

An official of the Royal Observatory reported that fog has been covering the outer harbour of the Colony in the last three days but lifted a little in the afternoon each day. The fog spread to almost the whole area this morning, added the official.

The fog is caused by a warm southerly air current. In the inner harbour area the fog will lift a little in the afternoon but the situation in the outer area will remain the same.

During the morning two Danish vessels entered port, the Kirsten Maersk from Japan and the Jacob Jensen from Bangkok, and several ships left port.

PLANES DIVERTED

The heavy fog this morning played havoc with airline schedules at Kai Tak Airport.

The BOAC flight from Tokyo, due at 8 a.m., landed over the field for over an hour before being diverted to Manila. The BOAC flight to London has been postponed.

Two flights, Thai Airways from Tokyo and Air India from International from Bangkok, by-passed Hong Kong and flew on to their destinations—Bangkok and Okinawa, respectively.

The Pan American World Airways flight, scheduled to arrive at 9.45 a.m., was still circling over the Airport at time of going to press.

Govt Queried On Redevelopment At Repulse Bay

Mr Horace Kadoorie, presiding at the annual meeting of the Hongkong & Shanghai Hotels, Ltd., held this morning, disclosed that during the year an approach was made to Government to find out their reactions to proposals whereby land areas generally in the Repulse Bay district might be developed and put to better use.

Government had replied that no more than a general indication of the major principles relating to any redevelopment could be given, and as a result the Board had decided not to pursue the matter for the time being.

The Chairman also revealed that the Peninsula Hotel had enjoyed a record year and that work was proceeding smoothly on the Peninsula Court site.

In his printed statement to shareholders, Mr Kadoorie said: "Before dealing with the accounts for the past year it may not be out of place to refer to two major incidents in the company's working which have a direct bearing on its future."

The sale of the Hongkong Hotel site was completed on August 31 when the purchasers exercised their option under the sale and purchase agreement and paid the balance of \$6,000,000, the payment of \$3,800,000 having been made in the middle of June.

The effect of this has been to increase considerably the liquid resources of the company so that the construction of Peninsula Hotel becomes more attractive in that it can now be undertaken without having recourse to an overdraft which, prior to that, had been an integral part of the necessary finance.

Work on the Peninsula Court, which is situated adjacent to the Peninsula Hotel commenced during the year and piling was completed on December 27. Basement and foundation work is proceeding satisfactorily and the first shipment of structural steel has left the United Kingdom. Provided deliveries from Home and the United States keep to schedule the building should be ready for occupation in the early part of 1957.

The building, consisting of 12 storeys, will operate as an annex to the hotel and will contain suites of three and two rooms, also single rooms, the larger suites having a private en-suite bathroom. The building will be air-conditioned throughout by a reversible chilled and warm water system, the first of its kind in the Colony.

The Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation will occupy the ground floor and the major portion of the mezzanine floor, vacating the premises in the Peninsula Hotel, which they have occupied since 1929. A lease for a period of 20 years has been agreed in principle.

The total cost of the project including the ground paid for renewal of the Crown Lease will approximate to \$8,400,000. The area in the Peninsula Hotel, which will be freed as a result of the Bank removal, will be converted into offices to provide much-needed accommodation for airlines.

REPULSE BAY

Last year reference was made to this Company's assets at Repulse Bay. As the result of the survey an approach was made to Government in order to find out their reactions to proposals whereby land areas generally might be developed and put to better use.

Government's reply was to the effect that whilst considerable thought had been given to the matter it was not possible to give more than a general indication of the major principles which it was thought should govern any redevelopment of these properties. It would appear that building would be somewhat severely restricted so as to preserve the open nature of the properties in this area, as at present constituted.

It is not proposed to pursue this matter further for the time being.

The accounts, which are drawn up in a similar form to last year call for little explanation.

The Peninsula Hotel had a record year and derived full benefit from having all its bedrooms air-conditioned by a main plant.

On the first floor a new restaurant called the "Playpen" was opened in October. This was an immediate success and is rapidly making a name for the excellence of its cuisine.

Gadd's is becoming world-renowned and no visit to the Colony is complete without sampling its attractions. No effort is spared to enhance its reputation as the premier restaurant in the Orient.

During the year, all front rooms at Repulse Bay were air-conditioned as well as a small ground

room on the ground floor of the West Wing. This is available for private parties all the year round and is increasing in popularity.

In addition, a private bus service provides an amenity for guests who wish to reside at Hongkong's most beautiful resort.

WORKING PROFIT

The increase in the working profit of \$68,324.00 shows that your Company has once again more than maintained the results achieved in the past two years. Rents have been maintained, but a reduction must be anticipated next year as no revenue will arise from the Hongkong Hotel site. This also applies to interest as a large portion of the present figures represents interest on the outstanding balance of the sale price.

The second portion of the Profit & Loss Account has been subdivided in order to show more readily the profit earned by the Company as opposed to the profit derived from the sale of the Hongkong Hotel site.

The item of extraordinary repairs and renewals includes an amount of \$293,931.02 which was carried from the previous year.

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith



"Maybe she's like I was at her age, going with so many good-looking boys—and marrying somebody as plain as an old shoe!"

RAF Pilot Killed In NT Crash

The death of Flying Officer J. C. Shipman of 28 Squadron, Royal Air Force is announced with regret.

Flying Officer Shipman was flying a Vampire whilst engaged in Exercise "Sea Dragon" when he crashed into a hillside near Ngau Kuo Kok, in the New Territories, yesterday evening.

The cause of the accident is not known. It will be investigated by the Royal Air Force.

Flying Officer Shipman was 22 years of age and joined 28 Squadron in March, 1955. He was unmarried, and his next of kin is his father who lives at 51, Poppleton Road, Palmers Green, London.

Funeral arrangements will be announced later.

Dismissed Foki Breaks Dishes

After being told by his manager that his services would be terminated at the end of this month, Kam Hing, a 38-year-old shop foki, of 54 Yee Wo Street, ground floor, went into the kitchen yesterday and broke 30 dishes valued at \$80.

He also abused the manager, Ling Sun.

At Central this morning he was fined \$50 or seven days when he pleaded guilty before Mr. E. Lung, in charge of disorderly conduct.

The Court was told that at the time the offence was committed the defendant was apparently under the influence of alcohol.

TWO AWARDED DECORATION

H.E. the Governor has awarded the following awards in the Royal Hongkong Defence Force, it was announced in the Government Gazette today: Efficiency Decoration to Capt. M. A. D'Almada Remedios and Lt. R.S. Capell.

In view of this award the awards of the Efficiency Medal to Capt. D'Almada Remedios and Lt. Capell, and the First Class to the Efficiency Medal to Lt. Capell have been cancelled.

Throughout the past year, and there is little left for me to say except to express pleasure at the results achieved.

"Many will regret the passing of the Hongkong Hotel, but, as has been pointed out by the Chairman, its sale has made the Peninsula Court proposition more attractive and also provided the means to refund to old shareholders what they lost in the capital reduction in 1936."

It is pleasing to note the establishment of a Staff Provident Fund, and I feel sure that shareholders will approve of the bonus of 10% of their annual salaries to the Foreign Staff.

TODAY'S POLICE REPORTS

A Chinese couple were accosted by three Chinese men in Peace Avenue, Homantin shortly after midnight and threatened with dagger-like instruments.

The men forced the couple into a nearby vacant house, where they stole two wristwatches and cash, of a total value of \$75, before decamping. Police enquiries are proceeding.

Early Morning Chase

A Chinese woman, returning to her home at 2 a.m. today, was accosted on the staircase of No. 733, Nathan Road by a Chinese who snatched her handbag. The victim called out for help and after struggling with her assailant, she followed him to street level, where Police officers joined the chase.

A man was subsequently apprehended on the staircase of No. 342, Roofland Street.

Roofland Pursuit

At 11.15 a.m. yesterday, a male Chinese entered a goldsmith's shop at No. 28, Nga Tsin Lung Road, Kowloon City and asked for some jewellery. The man, when handed some rings, immediately ran off with them.

Shop employees pursued the man to the rooftop of No. 39, Lion Rock Road, where they lost sight of him.

A man was later discovered lying badly injured in the yard of these premises, having apparently fallen from the roof. He has since died.

Suspects Detained

A Chinese woman lost a purse and cash at the Vehicular Ferry Wharf at 3 p.m. yesterday. Two persons have been detained by the Police in connection with this case.

Fatal Accident

A fatal accident, whilst reversing, collided with a 15-year-old Chinese girl pedestrian at a recreation area near Taun Wan Police Station at 10.45 a.m. yesterday.

The girl, Chak Shun Kan, of 26, Chai Wan Kok East Village, was removed to hospital, where she was pronounced dead on arrival.

Pedestrian Injured

A military motor cycle collided with a Chinese pedestrian in Castle Peak Road, near the South Sea Textile Factory at 11.30 a.m. yesterday. The injured man, Wong Tak, aged 19, an employee of the factory, sustained leg injuries and is now detained in hospital for treatment.

Dairy Farm Final Dividend

The Directors of the Dairy Farm, Ice & Cold Storage Company, Limited, announce that they will recommend at the forthcoming annual general meeting of shareholders the payment of a final dividend for the year 1955 of \$1.10 per share making a total dividend for the year of \$1.62½ per share.

The name of Mr. W. W. C. Shaw has been added to the annual list of authorized architects for 1956, it was announced in the Government Gazette today.

Alleged Contempt Of Court Hearing

Hearing of an alleged contempt of the Court against the proprietors, editors, publishers and printers of ten Chinese newspapers began before the Full Court, comprising the Chief Justice, Mr Justice M. J. Hogan, and Mr Justice J. R. Gregg, Puisne Judge, this morning.

The alleged contempt was said to have arisen out of the publication of an article concerning the Ming Tak Bank robbery in Kowloon on January 22.

On March 9, the Full Court granted an ex-parte application by the Crown for writs of attachments to be issued against the newspapers for alleged contempt of court which were returnable today.

The papers concerned are the Yuet Wah Daily News, the Gentleman Yat Pao, Kung Sheung Daily News, Hung Lok Daily News, Ming Sing Yat Po, Wah Kiu Yat Po, Chiu Yin Po, Wan Kau Yat Po, the New Evening Post and the Sing Tao Jih Po.

The Sing Tao Jih Po were represented by the Hon. Leo d'Almada, Q.C. and Mr D.A.L. Wright, both instructed by Mr B. N. Cooper, of Messrs Walker and Crist. The Kung Sheung Daily News were represented by Mr Patrick Yu, instructed by Messrs C. Y. Kwan and Co. The other newspapers were represented by Mr Lawrence Leong, instructed by Mr P. L. Lam.

Mr W. A. Blair-Kerr, Senior Crown Counsel, appeared for the Crown.

Mr d'Almada and Mr Yu applied to have their cases heard after the Court had heard the cases in which Mr Leong appeared. They were granted the applications.

Dealing with the first application which was against Lo Sau-king, proprietor, Hung Lok Daily News, Mr Blair-Kerr said that the subject matter of the proceedings was not a matter of public interest.

In the criminal cases the four accused were Lau Sang, alias Chan Kwong, Pang Ngau, Cho Hung and Leo Ka-yul. They were arrested on January 21 by the Police and taken into custody on a charge of complicity in the robbery of the Police with the serious offence of aggravated robbery, on the same day.

In the affidavit, Insp. Harbert continued that at 11 a.m. on Sunday morning, on January 22, the man appeared before a special Court on the charge and were remanded by the Magistrate for the first time. No evidence had been taken at that hearing. It was apparent from the affidavit of Mr R. F. Smith that on the morning of January 22, the Yuet Wah Daily News published an article a translation of which was attached to the affidavit. Hearing is continuing.

THE FACTS

Dealing with the facts of the case, Mr Blair-Kerr referred to the affidavit of Det. Sub-Ins. Harbert, the officer in charge of the criminal case, which was Mr Blair-Kerr said, the subject matter of the proceedings was not a matter of public interest.

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Suspension To Continue

The Immigration Officer announces that the present suspension of quota restrictions on the number of persons entering the Colony over the land frontier at Lowu will continue until further notice.

This means that any native of Kwangtung in possession of a Kwanlung re-entry permit or any person who can satisfy the Immigration authorities that he is a bona fide Hongkong resident will continue to be admitted freely into the Colony so long as current arrangements are in force.

The Immigration Officer reserves the right, however, to re-impose quota restrictions without further notice should the number of non-Hongkong residents entering into or remaining in the Colony to be excessive.

The period of relaxation of quota restrictions, originally instituted to facilitate movements of travellers from China wishing to visit relatives and friends during the Chinese New Year Festival period from February 10 to February 28, has already been prolonged once until the end of the month of March.

NOT TO SPECULATE

"My submission is that we should not speculate as to the fact of the moment of time when a contempt may begin and this Court will deal with it."

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- Nylon stockings \$12 for 3 pairs

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